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REPORT
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1908-1909

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF

RELIEF MEASURES

IN THE

MYSORE STATE

DURING THE YEAR 1908-09.

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BANGALORE:
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRESS.
1909.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Revenue (Agriculture), dated 17th November 1909.

READ—

Letter No. C. 16, dated the 27th October 1909, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, forwarding copies of his special Report on the Administration of Relief Measures in the State during the year 1908-09.

No. R. 3713-53—AGRI. 58-09-3, DATED BANGALORE, 17TH NOVEMBER 1909.

ORDER THEREON.—In the Dewan's Address to the Representative Assembly of this year, the course of the distress which prevailed over a considerable part of the State in the year 1908-09 has been briefly traced and the various measures taken by or under the orders of Government to deal with the same described. It is unnecessary, therefore, to go over these facts once more in this Order, and the details are also fully set forth in the lucid and comprehensive report of the Revenue Commissioner read above. It only remains to place on record the appreciation of Government for the valuable services rendered by Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar, Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, and the Deputy Commissioners of the districts principally affected, *viz.* Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug, and to a smaller extent of the districts of Bangalore and Mysore, where the conditions were less serious, in coping with an anxious situation.

2. Government also note with pleasure the testimony which the Revenue Commissioner bears to the satisfactory manner in which all Sub-Division Officers and Amildars, who had personally to carry out the measures of relief and to watch the situation, did their work, and also the commendation bestowed by him on his Assistants Messrs. K. Subba Rao and T. G. Lakshmana Rao, Assistant Engineer.

K. S. CHANDRASEKHARA AIYAR,
Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Depts.

To—The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.
The other Heads of Departments.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.

Exd.—C. V.

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SUBJECT	PARA	PAGE
CHAPTER VIII.		
OTHER ARRANGEMENTS...	80-92	30-34
Rail-borne Export and Import Trade	80	30
Watch on '*santes*' (shandies)	81	31
Scrutiny of excise sales	82	31
Weekly statements of funds sanctioned	83-86	31-32
Simplification of accounts and procedure	87	32
Imprests	88	32
Additional establishment	89-92	32-34
CHAPTER IX.		
PRIVATE CHARITY	93-99	35
CHAPTER X.		
TOTAL COST	100-107	36-37
Direct relief	100	36
Cost of unit per day...	101-103	36
Indirect relief	104	36-37
Cost of distress of the year 1891-92	105	37
Probable recoveries	106	37
Net cost	107	37
CHAPTER XI.		
CONCLUDING REMARKS	108-115	38-40
Effect of distress on men and cattle	109-110	38
Supervision	111	38
Economic condition of the people as tested by the scarcity ...	112	39
Future prospects	113	39
Co-operation of other Departments	114	39
Notice of officers	115	39-40
APPENDICES		41-51
MAPS AND CHARTS ...		I to XXVII

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No. D. OFFICE OF THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER IN MYSORE,
Dated Bangalore, 20th October 1909.

FROM

Rajakaryapravina
A. RANGASWAMI IYENGAR, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

To

K. S. CHANDRASEKHARA AIYAR, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Gen. & Rev. Depts., Bangalore.

SIR,

Now that the official year has ended and the seasonal conditions have so far improved as to enable Government to dispense with the operations for special relief, I have the honor to submit for the information of Government the following special report on the Administration of Relief Measures in the State during the year 1908-1909. As it is the first of its kind, I have thought it necessary to report in greater detail, that it may not only be a record of the year's work, but also serve as reference for the future.

CHAPTER I.

RETROSPECT SINCE THE RENDITION, AS REGARDS YEARS OF DROUGHT.

2. Before proceeding to describe the distress and relief operations set on foot, it is desirable to have a retrospect of the experiences of the State since the Rendition and to refer to the special features in the rainfall and agricultural condition of the country. Though there have been several bad years since the terrible famine of 1876-77, during the 28 years that have elapsed since the Rendition, there has fortunately been no famine nor even such a wide-spread scarcity as what forms the subject of the present report.

3. In judging of any year as good or bad with regard to the agricultural prosperity of the State, it is necessary to bear in mind that neither the gross rainfall, nor the revenue collections in the year, nor even the prices of food grains, could in themselves serve as sufficient criteria. A mere heavy fall of rain, without reference to the requirements of agricultural operations or to the conditions of the crops, can be of no benefit to the raiyat. On the other hand, even a moderate rainfall, when timely and properly distributed, would ensure an average crop and provide an adequate supply of drinking water without breaching the tanks or damaging the crops, which untimely or excessive rains often do. It would also enable the raiyats to harvest their crops with ease, and keep the country free from sickness or epidemics which invariably come in the wake of drought or heavy wet weather.

4. We cannot also place much reliance on the state of the revenue collections or statistics of acreage under occupancy or cultivation. In Mysore, the effects of a single bad season, unless it be seriously bad, do not affect the collections, as the raiyats manage to pay up their dues, though at some privation; and the extent under occupancy does not suffer, as annual *darkhasts* of lands for temporary cultivation are very limited, and there is generally not much shrinkage of cultivation as the cultivators, ever anxious to take advantage of every rain, prepare their lands and put down seeds on the off chance of a normal season.

5. It is only the outturn of crops which can give a fair idea of how far the rainfall has been seasonable and sufficient and indicate the raiyats' prosperity or the reverse. But reliable information under this head is difficult to be had, as it is only within the last few years that any systematic attempt has been made to collect such data; and the low-paid village officers, whether from ignorance, inefficiency or unreliability, cannot be expected to furnish accurate details. We are thus obliged to fall back upon a review of the statistics of rainfall at the various stations from day to day, general reports on the state of crops and the conditions of the people, and the particulars of the outturn, such as are furnished by the village officers, for forming an estimate of the nature of an agricultural year.

6. Judged by these conditions, the twenty-eight years that have elapsed since 1881-82, may be classified under the following three heads :—

A. " Good years " in which the rainfall was timely, sufficient and generally seasonable throughout the State;

B. " Tolerable " or years in which either of the two monsoons proved scanty or gave rise to apprehensions of scarcity but subsequent rains materially improved the situation; and

C. " Bad years " in which the rainfall was on the whole defective and unseasonable or ill-distributed.

7. The years 1881-82, 1882-83, 1886-87, 1887-88, 1888-89, 1889-90, 1892-93, 1893-94, 1894-95, 1897-98 and 1902-03 will fall under Class A; the years 1885-86, 1890-91, 1895-96, 1896-97, 1898-99, 1900-01, 1901-02, 1903-04 and 1906-07 under Class B; and the years 1883-84, 1884-85, 1891-92, 1899-00, 1904-05, 1905-06, 1907-08 and 1908-09 under Class C. It may here be observed that though in the year 1903-04, the average rainfall measured 55·49 inches and was timely in the districts of Tumkur, Shimoga, Mysore and Kadur, it proved highly disastrous to the serial tanks in the Kolar District. It was not therefore propitious to the State as a whole.

8. Taking the years under Class C, we find that the years 1883-84 and 1884-85 caused grave anxiety to the Government. In the former year, the dry crops in the north-eastern and eastern districts yielded from one-fourth to half of the usual average. In 1884-85 the unfavourable conditions of the first half of 1883-84 appeared in an aggravated form. The south-west monsoon was scanty. The early crops failed or withered entirely. The tanks everywhere were dry and no *Kartika* paddy could be attempted under them, and much difficulty was experienced for drinking water and fodder for cattle. The tension of this state of things was however relieved by the fall of heavy rains about the end of September, and subsequently the season assumed a favourable aspect.

9. A far more severe form of drought prevailed in 1891-92, and relief measures on a considerable scale had to be undertaken to alleviate the distress. These will be referred to in fuller detail further on.

10. The next unfavourable year was that of 1905-06 when the failure of the south-west monsoon, at the beginning of the year, caused much anxiety. There was some rain in October which improved the outlook, but the rains again held off and the early showers due in April 1906 having also failed, the prospect became grave in May and June; but the rains which fell at the end of July saved the State from the effects of a serious drought.

11. Besides these years of what may be called serious drought or distress, there were others which gave us more or less anxiety although they ended finally without serious trouble. But unless these years follow one another in succession, or precede or succeed a year of serious drought or scarcity, the people are able to recover from their effects without much trouble. It is only when their effects act in a cumulative form, that the condition of the people becomes grave and matters take a serious turn. It is therefore important to compare the antecedent conditions of 1891-92 and 1908-09 to form an adequate conception of the situation which we had to face in 1908.

CHAPTER II.

ANTECEDENT CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRESS OF 1891-92 AND THAT OF 1908-09.

12. Taking the five years preceding 1891-92, we find that the years 1886-87, 1887-88, 1888-89 and 1889-90 were years of normal prosperity though there were fluctuations in the rainfall. In October 1889, Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer in his address to the Representative Assembly, after comparing the occupied area in the preceding four official years from 1885-86 to 1888-89, said " This shows the steady extension of cultivation under the influence of the highly propitious seasons we have been blessed with during the past three years. And I am happy to be able to congratulate the Province upon the excellent agricultural prospects of the current year." The year 1889-90 was also pronounced to be a favorable one, while the succeeding year was an indifferent one. At the end of the calendar year 1891, *i.e.*, when the official year 1891-92 had partly run its course, there were ominous signs and in October 1891 the Dewan in his Dasara Address spoke as follows :—

" Gentlemen, before concluding this address I must refer you to the apprehended failure of the rains and the consequent scarcity which threatened us during the last few months. It is a matter for sincere gratification that these apprehensions have now been allayed owing to the most seasonable rains we have had, since the beginning of this month. Indeed only a fortnight ago the situation was regarded as so grave that orders were issued for throwing open the State Forests for free grazing as also for the actual commencement in parts of Chitaldrug and Tumkur Districts of village relief works in connection with our existing system for the repair of minor tanks. . . . Happily the recent plentiful rains have removed all cause for present apprehension. I may also add that notwithstanding the heavy drain on our food stock made by the distress in some Madras districts and the temptation of the prevailing high prices, our raiyats have, from all accounts, not been unmindful of their duty to reserve sufficient stock for their own use against a possible rainless season, and this provident self-restraint was beyond all praise and surely a matter for congratulation."

But these anticipations were not destined to be realized. The rains of October, though they began well, proved a sad disappointment. The whole situation of 1891-92 is summed up as follows in the address of the Dewan for 1892-93 :—

" In the *maidan* parts of Mysore and Hassan Districts, the south-west monsoon was so scanty and precarious that the early dry crops were completely lost except in a few scattered situations. The northern and eastern districts did not get any of the early rains and had in consequence to defer the preparation of land for cultivation much beyond the usual season. A few showers which came later on permitted of the sowing of nearly the usual extent of land with the ordinary dry crops in the northern taluks. These began to fade from insufficient moisture. The rains which fell towards the end of September raised hopes of a favourable change in the season. But by November it was evident that the north-east monsoon too had failed and that the general outturn of dry crops would not be much above a four-anna average in most taluks. The tanks had received no water and wet cultivation under them could not be attempted. The failure of fodder was wide-spread and altogether there was every indication of an impending distress of a very aggravated type, and towards the end of November, the prices of food grains began to rise rapidly owing both to the local failure of crops and to large exports to neighbouring Madras districts."

In the beginning of December 1891, the Dewan started on a tour through most of the taluks of the districts of Mysore, Tumkur, Chitaldrug, Kolar and Bangalore, and relief operations were devised forthwith. The rains which fell in May and June 1892 were, however, both copious and seasonable and enabled the Government to close all relief operations and in October 1892 it was officially stated that the " *mungar* crops are being harvested, the *Kartika* paddy and other crops are in a flourishing condition, condition of cattle has materially improved

and prices which have already come down considerably during the past four months promise soon to reach the normal level."

13. Taking now the five years preceding 1908-09, we find that the two years 1903-04 and 1906-07 were years of good rainfall and of normal prospects, and that in the three years 1904-05, 1905-06 and 1907-08 rains were insufficient causing grave anxiety. The heavy rains of 1903-04 had not been altogether an unmixed blessing inasmuch as they had been productive of serious injury to the tanks in the Kolar District from which it has not yet quite recovered. In 1904-05 the north-east monsoon was a partial failure in most parts and all the districts except Shimoga and Hassan felt the effect of the deficient rainfall. In the next year, all the districts except Bangalore and Hassan were similarly affected, and I summed up the agricultural situation in the Revenue Administration Report of 1905-06 by stating that "if the year 1904-05 was one of grave anxiety to all concerned," as characterised by my predecessor in office, "this anxiety was greatly intensified in the year 1905-06." In 1907-08, the *maidan* districts except Mysore fared badly, the early rains being neither seasonable nor evenly distributed. The north-east monsoon proved most disappointing in all the districts and the rainfall in November was scarcely above the average, with the result that there was not a sufficient supply of water in the tanks for the *Vaisakhi* crops. In the districts of Bangalore, Tumkur and Chitaldrug there was scarcity of water and fodder for some months of the year. In the Mysore District, the cattle were not in good condition. In the *malnad* parts of the Kadur District, paddy crop suffered on account of heavy and continuous rain. Thus the year 1908-09 was preceded by three bad years, while the year 1891-92 was preceded by a number of years of average prospect.

14. Coming to the prices of food grains, the price of rice (second sort) was between 9 and 12 seers a rupee between 1891 and 1904. *Ragi* was selling between 20 and 32 seers a rupee between 1891 and 1899; in 1900 it fell so low as 14 seers, and gradually rose till 1904 when it sold at 32 seers. But since 1904-05 no such fluctuations as marked the prices of these staple food grains previous to that year are visible, and the prices which began to rise in 1904-05 have not shown the slightest tendency to fall to their original level but on the other hand have steadily continued to rise as shown below:—

Year	Seers per rupee	
	Rice (2nd sort)	*Ragi*
1904-05	10·11	25·11
1905-06	9·45	16·80
1906-07	8·55	16·22
1907-08	7·98	16·03

15. In the five years preceding 1891-92 the prices of rice (second sort) and *ragi* were as follows:—

Year	Seers per rupee	
	Rice (2nd sort)	*Ragi*
1886	13 ...	35
1887	15 ...	44
1888	14 ...	43
1889	13 ...	42
1890	12 ...	35

These prices were thus, far lower than those which prevailed in the four years preceding 1908-09. The steadily ascending scale of prices in recent years was so bewildering and difficult of explanation, that I stated, in the Revenue Administration Report of 1907-08, that the causes should be sought outside the State, and the same problem is now confronting the whole country and no satisfactory solution has yet been arrived at. The rise in prices has been so unusually high and has prevailed for such length of time, that I do not think that any parallel could be easily found for it in connection with any previous scarcity or famine.

16. As regards the area under different food crops, the extent under paddy which had since 1886-87 reached the highest figure, *viz.*, 792,754 acres in 1903-04, decreased to 727,244 acres in 1904-05 and to 683,328 acres in 1905-06. It rose to 737,222 acres in 1906-07 which was comparatively a good year and fell to 724,296 acres in 1907-08. The area under *ragi* was highest in 1895-96, *viz.*, 2,616,460

acres, but stood at 2,239,452 acres in 1903-04. It fell to 2,189,669 acres in 1904-05 and to 2,127,248 acres in 1905-06. In 1906-07 it showed a slight increase to 2,200,510 acres and reached 2,294,664 acres in 1907-08.

17. The total net area cropped since 1891-92 was highest in 1903-04, *viz.*, 6,196,197 acres; it decreased to 5,926,696 acres in 1904-05 and to 5,779,850 acres in 1905-06. It rose to 6,030,486 in 1906-07 but again fell to 6,011,671 acres in 1907-08.

18. Statistics regarding outturn of crops (in annas) are available, only since the year 1897-98; and the provincial average from that year till 1907-08 stands as follows :—

Year	Average outturn in annas	
	Paddy	*Ragi*
1897-98 to 1898-99	10·45	8·5
1899-00 to 1900-01	8·7	6·4
1901-02 to 1903-04	10·5	8·71
1904-05 to 1905-06	7·55	5·50
1906-07	10·0	9·1
1907-08	9·8	7·4
1908-09	7·8	5·1

19. These details will show that the year 1908-09 was, from an agricultural point of view, preceded by conditions far more unfavorable than those of the year 1891-92, and that the continuous high prices which tell heavily on the bulk of the poorer officials and labouring and landless classes and the years of bad rainfall recurring in quick succession, had put to severe trial the staying power of the people, which had, in the present decade, also suffered from the effects of a dire pestilence like plague which the preceding decades had not experienced.

CHAPTER III.

THE DISTRESS OF 1908-09—ITS CAUSES AND INDICATIONS.

20. With such antecedent conditions as described above, people looked forward to the seasons of 1908 with anxious hope; but unfortunately they had to face a sad disappointment. The average rainfall in 1908 for the whole State was only 29·94 inches against 36·79 inches, the average for the 39 years beginning with 1870. The deficiency of rains was most marked in the *maidan* districts of Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug, where the average rainfall during the year was so low as 16·00, 15·76 and 14·03 inches respectively, against the 39 years' average of 27·89, 25·90 and 21·10 inches. The course of rainfall in the several taluks of the State from June to November 1908, the season for the cultivation of *ragi*, the staple dry crop, is graphically indicated in the charts annexed to this report, where the black continuous line has reference to the rainfall of 1908, while the dotted line portrays the corresponding average for 38 years (1870-1907). Briefly, it will be seen that the south-west monsoon was irregular and scanty in the districts of Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug, and in parts of Bangalore, Mysore, Hassan and Kadur. The north-east monsoon also proved a failure in Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug Districts and deficient elsewhere. The outturn of dry crops in general was therefore very poor; and *ragi* yielded less than a four anna crop, over a considerable area in the State. Wet crops too suffered except in the *malnad* and under river channels, most of the tanks having completely dried up, on account of the failure of the north-east monsoon in two successive years. Even in the *malnad* parts of the Kadur District, paddy on the high-lying lands (*makkigaddes*) either completely failed or yielded but a poor crop.

21. Owing to the prolonged drought caused by the failure of successive monsoons, scarcity of water and fodder was felt almost everywhere in the districts of Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug, in parts of the *maidan* taluks of Hassan, Kadur and Shimoga Districts and of the taluks of Mandya, Nagamangala and Krishnarajpete in the Mysore District and in parts of some taluks in the Bangalore District. The deficiency in rainfall affected the crops and there was a serious diminution in the outturn of food grains. The fall in outturn would be best illustrated by the following figures showing the actual outturn in relation to area cultivated for rice and *ragi*:—

Name of crop	Year			Area cultivated	Estimated outturn in *khandies*
Paddy	1907-08	...	...	724,291	2,767,008
	1908-09	...	...	648,939	1,951,024
Ragi	1907-08	...	...	2,294,660	3,399,990
	1908-09	...	...	2,216,921	2,314,993

22. The conditions in each district are set forth below in some detail :—

(*a*) In the Tumkur District, where distress was most wide-spread, though there was good rainfall during May and June 1908, it was much deficient in the next three months, while the north-east monsoon proved a partial failure in October with a most disappointing break thereafter. The result was a very poor harvest especially as this district does not contain any large rivers or channels with an unfailing supply for irrigation. Only about 20 per cent of the tanks received any supply worth mentioning, and there was wide-spread scarcity of drinking water and fodder for cattle.

(*b*) In the Kolar District, the *mungar* rains were delayed till May 1908 when there was a fall of 2 to 3 inches throughout the district. This was followed by some showers in June with a long and disappointing break in July and August which resulted in a material failure of the south-west monsoon, giving rise to scarcity of water and fodder. The few showers in September were hardly sufficient to bring water to the

tanks or for raising the *Kartika* wet crop under them. The north-east monsoon was also most unsatisfactory, having held off till near the end of October when there were some sharp local showers. The rains practically ceased from the 3rd of November. During the last week of December and early part of January, there was a general rainfall of 2 to 4 inches throughout the district which brought in a small supply of water to a few minor tanks and *gokattes* and improved the pasturage to some extent. But there was practically no *Vaisakhi* or hot weather rice grown under the tanks. The raiyats were persuaded to attempt the cultivation of quick-growing crops on a few tank beds which, however, did not yield much, owng to want of sufficient moisture.

(*c*) In the Chitaldrug District, the south-west monsoon rains were not only deficient but also irregular and ill-distributed, while the north-east monsoon proved a total failure. The important food crops (*ragi*, *jolam* and paddy) did not yield even a four anna harvest over a large part of the district. There was also the consequent scarcity of fodder and water.

(*d*) In the Bangalore District, the year began well with timely, though not copious, *mungar* rains. But from the middle of September the rainfall became scanty, and there was an abrupt break after the 1st week of November. The deficient rainfall in September and October affected the maturing of the *ragi* crop although the earlier sowings fared better. There was only a scanty supply of water in the larger tanks, while the minor ones had dried up; and there was a serious failure of wet crops, as well as scarcity of drinking water in several taluks.

(*e*) In the Mysore District, the south-west monsoon, though it began well with good showers in May and June, proved disappointing in July and August, causing the failure of *jola* crop. There were good rains in September, but the north-east monsoon proved rather scanty in the next month and failed thereafter to the serious detriment of the *ragi* crop, except in the portions near the western and southern borders of the district. The wet crops also fared badly except under river channels. The failure of the *hingar* rains resulted in the drying up of many tanks and scarcity of fodder was felt especially in the Nagamangala Taluk and in parts of Mandya and Krishnarajpete Taluks.

(*f*) In the Hassan District, the *mungar* rains of April and the early part of May were favorable, but later on in May and June, the south-west monsoon was in defect. In the latter half of June and in July there were good showers which revived the withering early crops. But again in August the rains were deficient and especially scanty in Arsikere and Channarayapatna Taluks. In September there was a general failure of rains throughout the district, while in October there were some good showers, though not half as copious as usual, and in November there was practically no rainfall. Thus owing to the partial failure of the south-west and almost entire failure of the north-east monsoon, the crop outturn, in general, was very poor. The tanks did not receive sufficient supply of water. Pasture soon dried up and almost all the tanks and wells ran dry in the *maidan* taluks.

(*g*) In the Kadur District, the seasonal conditions were normal till August. But in August, September and October there were long breaks with occasional showers and a complete failure in November. Most of the *maidan* parts of the district had but poor dry and wet crops, and the paddy crop in the high-lying lands in the *malnad* either dried up or yielded but a poor harvest. There was also great difficulty for fodder and water in the *maidan* parts of the district.

(*h*) In the Shimoga District, the south-west monsoon commenced somewhat later than usual and proved rather deficient in the *maidan* parts where rainfall was scanty after the first week of August. The north-east monsoon was almost a total failure; the staple crops, paddy, *ragi* and *jolam*, fared badly in the *maidan* taluks where scarcity for fodder was also felt to some extent.

23. Bad and disquieting as the rainfall and condition of crops were even so early as October and November last, and notwithstanding the high prices with a decided upward tendency, there were none of the uneasy signs of approaching distress such as aimless wandering of people, contraction of credit, or feverish activity in the grain trade. There were, however, some increase of crime, movement of raiyats with herds of cattle in search of pasturage, and some contraction of private charity, accompanied by a slight increase of begging in towns and grumbling of the poorer classes at the dearness of food grains. It may be explained, however, that most of the raiyats in the villages stuck to their fields either in the hope of some unusual showers which occasionally fall in December or early part of January or with the object of getting in the scanty crop slowly maturing on the field.

24. With this brief retrospect of the previous history of the State and the conditions antecedent to the anxious season of 1908, I proceed to describe the policy followed in 1908-09.

CHAPTER IV.

OUR POLICY AND A SLIGHT DEPARTURE FROM THE FAMINE CODE.

25. Though the policy to be adopted was not formulated in so many words, still as early as December 1908, I decided, with the concurrence of the Deputy Commissioners of Districts and with the sanction of Government, to follow the provisions of the Famine Code (which is based on that of the Bombay Government) in regard to the collection of information from time to time, the submission of periodical returns and reports and the distribution of gratuitous relief and relief to weavers. But as regards the application of tests laid down in our Code as a preliminary to the initiation of any relief works and the nature of such measures, we found it necessary to make a slight departure. Having regard to the facts that the distress, though great, was neither severe nor likely to assume an acute form unless the *mungar* rains due in the following April or May failed, that the population of the affected tracts was not very dense, being only 180 per square mile (as against 455 in the affected parts of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh), that almost the whole of the rural population owned some land or were connected with, and dependent on, land, that the small portion who ordinarily supported themselves by labour unconnected with land, such as public works, had their occupation still open to them, that there remained only but a very small percentage of the weak and infirm, having no one to care for them, who could be gratuitously relieved very economically through the village official agency, it was found inexpedient to start test works preliminary to the grant of relief on a small scale, or to make a formal declaration of famine till the course of *mungar* rains in April and May 1909 was known. After a most careful consideration and full discussion with the Deputy Commissioners, it was decided that the most practical, and in the long run the most economical course, was to adhere, in the main, to the policy followed by Sir K. Sheshadri Iyer in the distress of 1891-92 under the commands of His Highness the late Maharaja Sri Chamarajendra Wadayar Bahadur, G. C. S. I., with such modifications as were necessary to suit the conditions of the present day. Steps were accordingly taken to expand the ordinary village works so as to keep the people near their homes, to grant loans on a liberal scale to enable them to carry on, under direct official supervision, tank and well works (in which they had a permanent interest) and also to support their dependents by engaging them in works to which they are usually accustomed, without much diminution of the normal wages. Such wages, it may be explained, would not be considered excessive, compared with those allowed on test works under the Famine Code, if the allowances paid thereunder for dependents were taken into account. It was also intended to gradually lower the wages on Local Fund and D. P. W. works to the level prescribed in the Famine Code, as the number of people on the works increased and demand for relief of the dependents became necessary owing to inability of the earning members to support them. Various other measures were also concerted to help the people, such as supply of fodder, import of food grains, supply of seed grains, etc. In brief, the measures were preventive, in the sense that they enabled the raiyats to ward off actual distress, and also partook of the nature of relief works, in so far as they provided work for the landless labouring classes in actual need of it. The importance of enlisting the co-operation, as far as available, of the local non-official and mercantile classes and stimulating private charity and organisation, wherever possible, was also steadily kept in view. In fact, our main endeavour was to put heart into the people when they were at the very threshold of distress, instead of a policy of action which would amount to leaving them to their own resources, unless they agreed to stringent and unpalatable restrictions, with certain prospect of having to take them on hand, in an emaciated condition later on.

It might be urged that such a procedure tended towards extravagance, and that it would have been better to wait till the necessity for relief was placed beyond doubt by instituting test works and to defer relief measures till the collection of full reliable data in regard to the outturn of crops and the requirements of the

raiyats. But in following this line of action there was the danger of people getting disheartened and demoralised and the relief being delayed too long. Every form of relief, whether early or late, may be open to some sort of abuse, but to begin operations early so as to keep the raiyats as far as possible near their own environments appeared the lesser of the two evils. The reports of the Famine Administration in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh and the Central Provinces also record a similar experience. As this is a point of great importance and open to diversity of opinions, I shall take the liberty of discussing it further on in detail even at the risk of some repetition.

26. (*a*) In framing the scheme of relief operations we had to pay special heed to the peculiar conditions and requirements of the Province. In our State, tanks, irrigation wells, drinking water wells, and other minor sources of water-supply such as *gokattes*, *hondas*, etc., are of special importance. In the repair and construction of such works, both the State and the people are deeply interested, and they afford an extensive field of useful work, which could be carried out as relief works, without any demoralising results, when the people are not reduced to the verge of severe distress.

(*b*) The rains may be divided into the *mungar* or the rains which fall in April and May, and south-west or early monsoon which begins from June and continues up to middle of September, and the north-east or later monsoon, *hingar*, which then continues till the latter part of November. These rains, either continuous with short convenient breaks, or closely following one another, with the dews of winter, help the people to carry on agricultural operations without intermission. The *mungar* rains help the raiyats to sow early crops such as *jolam*, *til*, etc., as also to plant sugar-cane and prepare the fields for the later crops, in the south-west monsoon or the middle rains, the *hyne* or the staple dry crops such as *ragi* with rows of *buller*, *tuvar*, etc., and the *Karthika* (or *Kharif*) paddy are grown while the later rains help these crops to mature and to fill the tanks for the *Vaisakhi* (or *Rabi*) crops and to soak the ground and keep up the supply in the reservoirs and springs during the hot weather till the monsoon rains come round again.

In the year 1908-09 all hope of rain was abandoned by the beginning of December, but the interval between December and the following April was short and the probable rainfall in April could not, of course, be foreseen in December. The measures adopted in the interval had therefore to be of a nature that easily permitted of their continuance or discontinuance just as the rainfall in April and May might render it necessary, without involving the State in heavy expenditure.

(*c*) If the rains are seasonable or at least moderate, the lands yield sufficient crops for the raiyats to eke out an independent and contented life. The people do not feel the pinch with the failure of any of these instalments in the rainfall, and anything like distress occurs only when the last rains cause serious disappointment, with a total loss of the crops. Even then the villagers are reluctant to leave their homes or to resort to test works and would rather pinch and starve in the hope of favorable change in the seasonal conditions, till they lose condition and become too weak to work for a wage. Therefore particular care had to be taken to humour their susceptibilities as far as possible and to help them to improve their own lands or employ themselves in works of utility in their own neighbourhood by offering them loans for land improvement, etc., or opening village works, wherever feasible, and not to compel them to resort to test works. Nor was there need for an actual experiment with test works to make sure of genuine distress.

(*d*) That there was considerable distress in the Province was well confirmed by the reports of Deputy Commissioners and by personal inspection, before the commencement of December, of the state of the standing crops and appearance of the country, the condition of the people and cattle. Then the raiyats were still engaged in collecting what little harvest

they could find and the next *mungar* rains were due at the end of April or early in May. Our great object therefore was to keep the people near their villages, so as to enable them to take advantage of those showers to grow early crops or prepare the lands for the *hyne* or principal crops. It was clearly understood that the failure of the early *mungar* and south-west rains would bring about a state of things, not far from famine of a severe type, with all its horrors.

(*e*) As this was the first occasion on which the Famine Code and the tests prescribed therein had to be practically enforced, some time was needed for the officers to acquaint themselves with its procedure and to get the raiyats accustomed to the exacting demands of the test works regulations. The opening of poor houses, relief kitchens and test works would have involved heavy outlay and additional establishment charges, which would have proved a superfluous expenditure, if the early rains of April and May proved propitious.

Having explained at some length the main lines of the policy followed, I shall now refer to the precautionary measures adopted.

CHAPTER V.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES ADOPTED.

27. The precautionary measures adopted may be classified briefly under the following four main heads—(1) issue of instructions and circulars to Deputy Commissioners, including conferences with these officers; (2) personal inspection of affected localities; (3) grant of certain concessions to raiyats; and (4) sanction of funds even before scarcity was formally recognised.

28. *Issue of instructions.*—On 29th August 1908, I sounded the first note of warning by representing demi-officially to Government the desirability of the Deputy Commissioners being asked to submit daily reports of rainfall in accordance with the provisions of the Famine Code. Thereupon Government passed orders investing me with the chief executive control over the Famine Administration in all its stages. On 19th September 1908, a circular was issued by me to Deputy Commissioners requesting them to watch the seasonal prospects in their districts, and to send me detailed reports as prescribed in Section 36 of the Mysore Famine Code, if there should be any apprehension of distress, or conditions should assume a threatening aspect. On 24th September, the Deputy Commissioners were requested to instruct the Amildars to send direct to me daily reports of rainfall. On the same date another circular was issued to the Deputy Commissioners to have in readiness lists of works (both Civil and Public Works) fit to be undertaken when need arose, as well as programmes for relief operations, with the necessary estimates and the establishment required therefor. They were instructed that before they left for Mysore for the Dasara they should see that all the arrangements were in a forward state and their *locum tenens* were fully posted up and able to act on their own responsibility in an emergency. They were also required to be prepared to return from Mysore to their districts at a moment's notice, should circumstances render it necessary. On 14th October, I submitted to Government a list showing the allotments required for the several districts during 1908-09 for loans of different kinds. On 28th October, Government sanctioned the allotments and a circular was issued by me on the same date, inviting the attention of the Deputy Commissioners to the above grant and requesting them to apply for further grants, as found necessary. The Deputy Commissioners were also informed that in addition to the sum of one lakh of rupees provided in the budget for 1908-09 for the repair and restoration of minor tanks, a further grant of one lakh would be sanctioned by Government for advancing loans to raiyats with a view to get earthwork done in the season of scarcity. On the 3rd November, Government directed that information regarding daily rainfall should be furnished to them and that a special report should be submitted when there was any perceptible change in the (agricultural) conditions, as also a preliminary report under Section 36 of the Famine Code. On 6th November 1908, the Deputy Commissioners were requested to pay special attention to, and strictly comply with, the requirements of Section 36 of the Famine Code and the provisions of Chapter III thereof, when the opening of test works was found necessary. On the 9th November a lengthy circular was issued referring to the hand-book of famine administration supplied to the Deputy Commissioners and inviting special attention to certain sections of the Code relating to preparation against famine and preliminary measures to be adopted. On 12th November, instructions were issued regarding the inspection of crops twice; the first inspection to be made between the 15th of September and the first week of November, and the second, between the 1st of February and the end of March. On 13th November, seeing that there had been no rain and the seasonal prospects were getting very gloomy, I issued a circular requesting Deputy Commissioners to form a rough idea of the condition of the taluks from the state of standing crops, to order a detailed enquiry into the history of each family in the villages with the help of two or three respectable raiyats of the locality, to estimate the extent of relief of various kinds required for the villages and to submit a full report with an application for further funds which

may be needed. On 3rd December, a circular was issued to Deputy Commissioners to come prepared with information on the following points for a conference convened by the Dewan on 7th December :—

i. Area and population of affected tracts.

ii. Estimated harvest (both *mungar* and *hingar* in the affected taluks).

iii. Statement of relief works which the Deputy Commissioners would propose to open in the affected parts.

iv.. Nominal roll of persons that can be employed for supervising and managing civil works and gratuitous relief.

v. Estimate of tools required.

vi. Statement showing the number of persons in each hobli in need of relief of various kinds with estimates of funds required therefor.

vii. Statement of the number of applications for *takavi* and other loans received and disposed of and the amount of loans asked for and sanctioned.

viii. Statement showing, for each hobli, the total demand under land revenue, the amount expected to be realized during the current year, the amount, the collection of which may have to be suspended, and the amount that may have to be remitted finally.

29. On 4th December, Government were pleased to formally approve of my recommendation to afford gratuitous relief to deserving cases under Section 162 of the Famine Code, even before the formal declaration of distress and the opening of relief works; and I had in anticipation of their orders, requested the Deputy Commissioners to arrange for the distribution of gratuitous relief (in the shape of grain doles) to persons entitled to such relief.

30. On 7th December, there was a conference in the Public Office Buildings at Bangalore, to concert measures for dealing with the scarcity. It was presided over by the Dewan and was attended by the Members of Council, the Revenue Commissioner, the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja, the General and Revenue Secretary to Government, the Senior Surgeon and Sanitary Commissioner, the Chief Engineer, the Excise Commissioner, the Inspector-General of Police, the Conservator of Forests, the Comptroller and Financial Secretary and all the Deputy Commissioners of Districts, except Mr. Kantaraj Urs. The following subjects were discussed at the meeting:—

(1) area and population of affected tracts;

(2) outturn of crops;

(3) number of people in need of relief of various kinds;

(4) loans and amounts required for the several kinds of relief and the amount to be granted to each individual under each head;

(5) grazing ground for cattle, cutting grass on a large scale in forest areas and transporting it to other parts of the State;

(6) number of village works and public works required and the amount of funds needed;

(7) number of men needed to supervise such works; medical relief and Police establishment;

(8) remission and suspension of land revenue, remission of *hulbanni* refund of excess fees collected for grazing and remission of *mohatarfa*;

(9) advances to village officers, payment to *totis*, advances to merchants for storing grains; and

(10) imprest to Amildars.

31. On 8th and 9th December, I had further discussions with the Deputy Commissioners of Districts and submitted to Government, on the 11th idem, proposals of probable expenditure on the basis of figures supplied by them. On 18th December, the Government ordered the submission of a weekly return of individual

works sanctioned and put in hand in the districts; and on 4th January, they passed orders on the provisional forecast submitted by me and sanctioned provisionally large sums for expenditure and also laid down the general lines to be followed in the expenditure of the grants. These orders of Government, dated 4th January 1909, may be regarded as marking the commencement of regular relief operations in the State.

32. *Personal inspection of affected localities.*—I started on a tour of inspection on 28th October 1908 and returned to head-quarters on 20th November, after visiting many of the affected taluks in the districts of Tumkur, Hassan, Kadur and Chitaldrug, and the Dewan was also on tour in November, in the affected tracts of the Hassan, Chitaldrug, Shimoga, Mysore and Tumkur districts and parts of the Kolar and Bangalore districts. The chief points that struck me during my inspection were the gradual deterioration of the standing crops owing to want of rain and the almost absolute certainty of the total loss of dry crops in several places, the deterioration of the cocoanut and arecanut gardens owing to failure of water-supply, the small stock of food grains left in the taluks, the demand for import of food grains, the scarcity of fodder and drinking water, and the numerous applications of the raiyats for loans from Government. The following extract from the Dewan's speech at the conference of 7th December contains the opinion formed by him on personal inspection of the affected parts :—

> "I was everywhere struck with the poorness of the harvests, in some places the dry crops having withered altogether, and no attempts having been made to grow wet crops. Barring a few tanks which had received a supply in the phenomenally heavy rain that fell in a few tracts in the latter part of October, the tanks as a rule were more or less dry, cattle were being driven in large numbers, mostly from parts of the Nagamangala Taluk, Mandya Taluk, and the central and western parts of the Tumkur District, towards the jungles of Heggaddevankote and Gundlupet, the Lakvalli, Benkipur and other forests and also towards the Bukkapatna forest."

33. *Grant of concessions to raiyats.*—At the very first sign of failure of rains, so early as November, the Deputy Commissioners of Districts were permitted to assign tank beds for cultivation and to throw open Amrut Mahal Kavals for free grazing. The Conservator of Forests, with the approval of Government, permitted cattle to graze in State Forests, free of charge, and also allowed the free removal of grass from such of the plantations as were not leased to the Military Department, as requisitions from Deputy Commissioners were received from time to time in the districts of Kolar, Tumkur, Hassan and Chitaldrug, between September and December. Before 31st December, the Conservator of Forests had with the approval of Government issued instructions to the District Forest Officers of the Kadur and Bangalore Districts to have hundred tons of grass cut from the State Forests in each of the districts, employing local labor as far as possible for the work, and to transport it to convenient centres on the railway line. Facilities were also afforded for taking cattle from the affected taluks to the forests of the Mysore and Shimoga Districts where grass of good quality was available, and arrangements were made to sink wells in such of the forests as had no water-supply in them.

34. *Allotment of funds.*—On 28th October 1908, Government sanctioned Rs. 90,750, for loans for sinking irrigation wells, loans under the Land Improvement Loans Regulation and *Takavi* advances, and it was apportioned as follows :—

District.	Rs.
Bangalore	30,450
Tumkur	21,300
Chitaldrug	14,050
Mysore	12,300
Kolar	3,900
Kadur	3,500
Shimoga	3,300
Hassan	1,950

On 31st October, a sum of Rs. 20,000 was sanctioned by Government for sinking drinking water wells and improving village sanitation, and on 4th November an advance of Rs. 2,000 to the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, for purchasing, at cost price, goods manufactured by weavers of Bangalore who were suffering from the continuance of abnormally high prices of food grains. On 7th November 1908, Government sanctioned for a period of three months, grain compensation allowance at the rate of one rupee per mensem to officials drawing a pay not exceeding Rs. 16 *per mensem* and at the rate of Rs. 2 to those drawing from Rs. 16 to Rs. 20 *per mensem* in the districts of Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur and Kadur, as *ragi*, the staple food grain, had been selling at less than 12 seers the rupee, and extended this concession to the Shimoga District on the 20th *idem*. On 25th November, Government sanctioned Rs. 28,000 for the relief of weavers (Rs. 1,000 for Dodballapur, Rs. 27,000 for the remaining taluks), Rs. 20,000 for gratuitous relief, and Rs. 10,000 for making arrangements for the supply of fodder to the affected tracts and also an additional allotment of one lakh of rupees for being advanced as *takavi* and land improvement loans. On 28th November, a sum of Rs. 50,000 was sanctioned for Local Fund works, such as drinking water wells, and sanitary improvements, etc., and on 19th December a further sum of Rs. 30,000 for masonry and stone work to minor tanks under the Minor Tanks Restoration Scheme, in addition to the one lakh of rupees provided in the budget for the purpose, and the grain compensation allowance was extended to the districts of Hassan, Chitaldrug and Mysore. On 4th January 1909, Government passed orders on the provisional forecast submitted by me and adopted a total of 32 lakhs of rupees for probable expenditure on relief operations up to 30th June 1909, the amount being apportioned as follows:—

	Rs.
Advances and loans	8,50,000
Expenditure on works	13,50,000
Remission of land revenue	2,00,000
Suspension of land revenue	4,00,000
Grain compensation allowance	4,00,000

CHAPTER VI.

COURSE OF DISTRESS MONTH AFTER MONTH AND THE AREA AND POPULATION OF THE AFFECTED TRACTS.

35. By December 1908, the effects of the severe drought began to be felt by the people. Even before this, the raiyats in the arid tracts of the Tumkur and Hassan Districts became solicitous about fodder for cattle and went in large numbers to the jungles in the *maland* parts of Mysore, Shimoga and Kadur, not only with the hope of saving their cattle but also of finding some means of livelihood for themselves. In the districts of Mysore, Tumkur and Chitaldrug, the distribution of gratuitous relief on a small scale became indispensable, and this was regarded as the first visible effect of the abnormal times we were passing through and an unmistakable indication of the distress which was coming on. By January 1909, the campaign of relief operations was systematically taken on hand. In December and January, however, the raiyats were still engaged in gathering what little crops and straw they could get. By the end of January and the commencement of February, the raiyats of small holdings and the labourers who had till then some work on the fields began to feel the pinch. Just then we were entering into the hottest part of the year, and the difficulty for water and fodder began to greatly aggravate the hardship of the people who could only reap a very scanty harvest and who were therefore forced to buy food grains at high prices. Thus a number of causes combined to make the distress acute in February and March. On the last day of February, we had the largest number of persons, *viz.*, 4,661 in receipt of gratuitous relief (on one day), and on the last day of March, the number still remained rather high, being 4,072. It was also on the last day of February that we had the largest number of persons on relief works, *viz.*, 7,484 and it went down to 6,246 on the last day of March. Thus, February and March may be said to be the worst period of distress. In April, May and June the relief operations were in full swing, but the rains of April and May mitigated the distress to a great extent. In June and July the break in the rain caused apprehensions, but in August the copious rainfall materially improved the situation. Even in September we were not fully prepared to discontinue all the returns connected with distress, although by the end of September all the special relief establishments were practically abolished.

36. *Area and population of affected tracts.*—The affected tracts comprise about 5,600 villages, spread over all the districts, with a total area of about 7,800 square miles and a population of nearly 14 lakhs.

The distress was most wide-spread in the districts of Tumkur and Kolar, where the affected tracts constituted about 2,600 and 1,700 square miles of area respectively, with a corresponding population of 449,000 and 331,000. Next in order come the districts of Chitaldrug, Mysore, Bangalore, Hassan, Kadur and Shimoga, with an approximate population of 164,000; 116,000; 103,000; 97,000; 79,000 and 38,000, respectively, in the affected parts. The aggregate area of the affected tracts in the Chitaldrug District was nearly 1,600 square miles, though their population was only 164,000 or less than 50 per cent of that in the Kolar District. This is accounted for by the fact that Chitaldrug is the most sparsely populated district in the State, with a mean density of 124 per square mile.

The distress was particularly severe in the taluks of Kolar, Mulbagal, Srinivaspur, Chintamani and Sidlaghatta (Kolar District); Kunigal, Gubbi, Turuvekere, Tiptur, Chiknayakanhalli and Pavagada (Tumkur District); Challakere, Hiriyur, Hosdurga and Chitaldrug (Chitaldrug District); Kadur (Kadur District); Arsikere and Channarayapatna (Hassan District); and Nagamangala (Mysore District). A map of the State showing the severely and slightly affected tracts respectively is appended to this report.

The bulk of the population being agricultural, the distress caused by adverse seasonal conditions was necessarily wide-spread. According to the Census of 1901, the total population of the State is about 5,540,000, out of which about 3,660,000 are

engaged wholly in agriculture, while those whose occupation is " Earthwork and general labour " number about 480,000. It has also been ascertained that the total number of holdings in the affected tracts is about 287,000, out of which 201,000, or 70 per cent, are small ones paying an assessment of ten rupees or less, so that there must have been a considerable number of petty *khatedars* who were most affected by the distress. Besides, the cooly classes were generally put to much suffering on account of the prevailing high prices of food grains, without any corresponding rise in wages, and also for lack of employment on the fields. The dearness of food grains pressed very hard upon the minor officials and menial servants of Government as well as people in general with small fixed incomes.

I shall now proceed to describe at some length the various relief measures adopted and the results achieved.

CHAPTER VII.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MEASURES ADOPTED.

37. The measures adopted had naturally to be such as would fit in with the needs of the situation, according to the nature of the suffering of the people and the kind of relief that could be effectively applied as a remedy. The following were the chief measures adopted :—

(1) permission for the temporary cultivation of tank beds ;

(2) the throwing open of State and District Forests and certain *Amrut Mahal Kavals* for free grazing of cattle, the cutting and stacking of hay at convenient centres for the use of cattle and the grant of permission for the cutting and removing of date leaves for cattle ;

(3) gratuitous relief to the old, decrepit, and the infirm and *gosha* women;

(4) the grant of loans, on a very liberal scale, under *Takavi* and the Land Improvement Loans Regulation ; the grant of advances for earthwork to tanks and the purchase and storing of seed grains for sale to raiyats ;

(5) the expansion of ordinary village and public works, road works and other works of public utility ;

(6) the remission of *hulbanni*, *mohatarfa* and land revenue in regard to wet lands and suspension of land revenue in regard to dry lands ;

(7) relief to weavers by way of advances ;

(8) grain compensation allowance to officials on low pay and village servants ; and

(9) arrangements with the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway authorities for the importation of food grains and fodder at reduced rates of freight.

38. *Tank bed cultivation.*—Even in ordinary years, if in any district the later rains are scanty and insufficient to fill tanks, the tank beds are given out for cultivation, and the moisture in the beds is thus utilized in growing Bengal gram, *jola* or other quick-growing crops. This year also this measure was one of the earliest to be adopted. In the districts of Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur, Mysore, Kadur, Shimoga and Chitaldrug a good number of tank beds was cultivated and the raiyats were induced to sow *jola* and *kadale* (Bengal gram). The raiyats eagerly took them up as they had not much field work and were glad to avail themselves of every means of adding to their scanty stock of food supply. But the results were not very satisfactory. Owing to the long break and scanty rains of the north-east monsoon, the moisture was insufficient and the temporary wells sunk in some places to irrigate these crops, failed. Consequently, though the yield was rather poor, some fodder was made available for cattle at a time when it was badly wanted. In the Tumkur District, an aggregate extent of 4,959 acres in 162 tanks was brought under cultivation. In the Mysore District, certain tank beds in the Nagamangala and Mandya Taluks were granted for cultivation of *cholam*, etc. This concession is said to have helped a large number of people of the Mandya Taluk with means of support. In the Shimoga District, an extent of about 1,030 acres in the beds of the Sulekere and Bukkambudhi and other tanks were given out for growing Bengal gram and yielded in all a revenue of Rs. 621. In the Kadur District, an extent of 624 acres in the beds of 13 tanks was granted for cultivation. The Deputy Commissioners of other districts have not furnished detailed information under this head.

39. *Arrangements for fodder.*—To meet the great scarcity of fodder which was keenly felt throughout the affected area, State and District Forests were thrown open for the free grazing of cattle. According to the weekly statements published by the Conservator of Forests in the Gazette, (from the commencement

of January up to the end of April 1909) the largest numbers of cattle that entered the State Forests and reserved lands were 35,208 in the Bangalore District during the week ending 27th February; 33,689 in the Kolar District during the week ending 27th March; 26,469 in the Tumkur District during the same week; 6,121 in the Shimoga District during the week ending 13th February; 5,220 in the Chitaldrug District during the week ending 27th March; 4,327 in the Hassan District during the week ending 24th April; 3,088 in the Mysore District during the week ending 13th February; and 2,482 in the Kadur District during the week ending 30th January 1909.

40. Attempts were made to export grass from State Forests to taluks where fodder was most needed, compressed in order to keep down freight. But the grass had by that time become too coarse and unsuitable for cattle feed and did not find favor with the raiyats. The experiment was not therefore successful. But it was encouraging in a way as it showed how much could be done in times of scarcity, if the matter were taken in hand early and proper arrangements made in time. The Deputy Commissioners of the Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur, Mysore and Kadur Districts have reported that the grass cut from the State Forests was not much appreciated by raiyats as the cattle refused it. But still there is no doubt that the imported grass was found helpful in several stations.

41. To provide water for cattle in State Forests, wells and *hondas* were sunk in convenient places. In the Shimoga District, a sum of Rs. 87 was spent by the Forest Department for sinking three temporary wells and deepening an old well for the use of cattle which had entered the State Forests for free grazing. In the Chitaldrug District, silt was removed from existing wells at a cost of Rs. 150 and one temporary well sunk.

42. The expenditure incurred by the Conservator of Forests on account of fodder supply was Rs. 5,379 in the Shimoga District, Rs. 1,509 in the Kadur District, Rs. 1,218 in the Mysore District, Rs. 306 in the Tumkur District and Rs. 25 in the Bangalore District.

43. Permission to cut and remove grass, free of charge, from the State Forests, was even a greater boon and appreciated with gratitude by the raiyats who availed themselves of the same very largely. In the Kolar District the loss in Forest Revenue by the grant of this concession is estimated at Rs. 2,672. In the Chitaldrug District, 15,426 cart-loads, 314,923 head-loads and 500 maunds of grass are reported to have been removed by the agricultural classes. In the Tumkur District, the Hagalvadi jungles and State Forests near Koratagere and Maddagiri were resorted to in large numbers, by the raiyats in the Chiknayakanhalli, Gubbi and Sira Taluks; and an enterprising contractor even exported some grass to Bangalore.

44. In all the districts the Deputy Commissioners were authorized to permit raiyats to cut and remove date leaves, free, for being used as fodder, and this privilege was largely availed of and tended to encourage and allay the fears of the raiyats in great many taluks.

45. *Amrut Mahal Kavals* were also thrown open for free grazing of cattle in the districts of Tumkur and Chitaldrug.

46. The Deputy Commissioners were also requested to assist the people in importing fodder from outside the State, wherever necessary. A sum of Rs.1,282 was advanced to the raiyats of Dodballapur (Bangalore District) for the importation of fodder. In the Kolar District, six waggon-loads of *ragi* straw were imported from Anantapur to Goribidnur at a cost of Rs. 140 and sold to the raiyats at cost price. Leading raiyats of the place also imported 15 waggon-loads of straw and distributed it among themselves, and advances to the extent of Rs. 1,895 were given to other raiyats for the purchase of fodder. In the Tumkur District, fodder was imported from the Shimoga and Kadur Districts to the Tiptur and Tumkur Taluks and the Turuvekere Sub-Taluk, through the railway. In the Mysore District, the taluks of Seringapatam, Nanjangud, Yedatore and T.-Narsipur served as a store-house for paddy straw, and cart-loads of it were daily removed for the use of the affected taluks of the same district as well as of Hassan, Tumkur and Bangalore. The Deputy Commissioner reports that 50 to 60 carts, filled with bundles of grass to their utmost capacity, plied daily on the Seringapatam-Channarayapatna road and the French-Rocks—Nelligere road during the three or four months of acute scarcity of fodder. In the Hassan District, associations were formed at Arsikere and

Gandasi for supplying imported paddy straw and cut grass from the *malnad*, and they are reported to have done good work by selling the hay at cost price. Though the mortality among cattle was great during the year owing to epidemics, still the measures adopted to provide fodder were on the whole successful and very timely, and a large number of cattle was saved from death. The Forest and Revenue Departments, the Superintendent of the *Amrut Mahal Kavals* and the Deputy Commissioners of Districts, all combined in a spirit of hearty co-operation to supply the raiyats with grass, or to admit their cattle freely into the forests, or to help them with money advances for purchasing and bringing fodder from outside the State.

The Government arranged with the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company for a liberal reduction of rates for transport of fodder, as will be more fully referred to further on.

47. *Gratuitous relief.*—As the distress became more and more acute, private charity began to contract, and a number of old and decrepit people as well as *gosha* women who were unprovided for, had to be given gratuitous relief by Government, as already explained. The Shekdar, with the help of the village officers and a *panchayat* of respectable villagers, was made to prepare a list of persons who were from age or infirmity or from usage or custom, unable to go out on works and who had no one to protect them. These lists were supervised and passed by the Amildars and then relief was distributed through the village officers or *panchayatdars*. Except in the Hassan District, the rates of relief were kept well within the limits prescribed in Section 84 of the Famine Code. In the Arsikere Taluk of the Hassan District, it is reported that, in addition to the grain dole provided in the Code, an amount equal to its cash value was also paid in the beginning. This was, however, rectified by this office. The Deputy Commissioner of Shimoga District reports that instead of grain doles, cash payments at one anna per head were made to the parties concerned.

48. The total number of units relieved gratuitously from the commencement up to the end of the official year was 449,768 at a cost of Rs. 24,156 for the whole State, distributed as follows:—

District.		Number of units.	Approximate amount. Rs.
Tumkur	...	127,380	8,040
Kolar	...	134,563	6,342
Mysore	...	72,580	3,005
Chitaldrug	...	72,520	4,441
Bangalore	...	37,961	2,028
Hassan	...	4,314	272
Shimoga	...	450	28
Total	...	449,768	24,156

The Sub-Division Officers and Deputy Commissioners carefully supervised the arrangements, and in my tours of inspection I also checked the registers and gave instructions for the elimination of names not entitled to such relief. It may be stated on the whole that except in a very few instances at the commencement, this sort of relief was not given to undeserving cases.

49. *Loans and advances.*—In organizing measures of relief, our chief aim was to enable people in distress to earn fair wages near their own homes and to prevent aimless wanderings or unhealthy crowdings of paupers in cities and large camps. As the construction of irrigation wells and land improvements are calculated to provide good wages besides increasing the value of lands, one of the very first measures resorted to, the importance of which was fully realised by all local officers, was the grant of loans to agriculturists for land improvement.

50. *Allotments for Takavi and Land Improvement Loans.*—On 28th October 1908, Government had in the usual course sanctioned the normal grant of Rs. 90,750 for *Takavi* and Land Improvement Loans during 1908-09. On my representation, as early as 31st October, they recognised the need for supplementing this grant, owing to the unfavorable conditions of the season. Additional funds were accordingly sanctioned from time to time as the amounts previously sanctioned were expended. The total amount thus allotted for these purposes during the year was Rs. 4,60,750 (as much as Rs. 3,75,000 having been utilized before the close of June 1909—Rs. 1,94,000 representing loans for irrigation wells and other land improvements, and Rs. 1,81,000 advances for the purchase of bullocks, seed and fodder, including a small amount for subsistence).

51. *Irrigation Wells and other Land Improvements.*—The disbursements made on account of loans for irrigation wells and other land improvements was largest in the Tumkur District, being about Rs. 62,000; the Chitaldrug District closely followed with nearly Rs. 59,000, while Kolar came third with Rs. 41,000. The Bangalore, Mysore, Hassan and Shimoga Districts incurred an expenditure of about Rs. 15,800; Rs. 11,500; Rs. 3,600 and Rs. 1,300, respectively. The liberal grants made by the Government stimulated also the employment of private capital on such works, and the more well-to-do among the raiyats took advantage of the drought and of the labor available in villages to spend considerable sums in the construction and the deepening of irrigation and drinking water wells. The Deputy Commissioners of Tumkur and Kolar report that improvements to private lands in their districts were effected with the capital of the agriculturists themselves to the extent of Rs. 2,73,000 and Rs. 27,000 respectively.

52. *Advances for subsistence.*—As it was apprehended that the system of granting advances for subsistence might, if not worked with considerable discrimination, demoralise the raiyats, besides leading to waste of public money, Government directed in their Proceedings No. R. 4332-70—Agri. 105-08-1, dated 4th January 1909, that this form of relief should, except during the cultivation season, be allowed only in rare cases where the Deputy Commissioner is satisfied "that the men seeking advances have come to the end of their resources and cannot be made to go on works either from age, sex, bodily infirmity or social position;" and subsequently on my representing how undesirable it was to wait till the raiyats had exhausted all their resources, the Government in their Proceedings No. R. 7354-63—Agri. 143-08-4, dated 16th March 1909, ordered that it was not necessary that an agriculturist should have sold all his property and exhausted his credit before he could be considered to have come to the end of his resources, but that it would be sufficient if he does not possess a stock of grain other than seed grain, and could not, without recourse to borrowing at a high rate of interest, replenish his stock.

The Deputy Commissioner of the Kadur District who sanctioned subsistence advances to the extent of Rs. 3,560, reported that "the restrictions placed on these loans by way of payment of interest and the hypothecations of the lands of the applicants as security for the loans, tended to minimize the applications and to confine them only to the really needy and deserving persons, who were driven to apply for these loans owing to the impossibility of raising money elsewhere."

No advances were granted for subsistence, in the Hassan and Shimoga Districts and the amounts advanced in the Chitaldrug, Tumkur, Bangalore, Kolar and Mysore Districts came up approximately to Rs. 3,720, Rs. 3,300, Rs. 3,000, Rs. 1,570 and Rs. 810, respectively.

53. As some difference of opinion has arisen regarding the advisability of freely granting advances for subsistence while the raiyats are not actually engaged in cultivation, it may be stated that in a country like Mysore where the raiyat has to be working on his fields throughout the year, in some operation or other, either in preparing for cultivation, or tending or harvesting crops, the restriction of the advance to the season when crops are standing is not quite appropriate. Further, no hard and fast restrictions seem necessary, as the average Mysore raiyat is generally very averse to seek the aid of Government, until he has exhausted all other resources. It may also be added that generally the necessity to maintain elaborate accounts for small advances, and the responsibility involved in granting loans, only after satisfying oneself that the offered security is sufficient, act as powerful checks to the sanctioning of such advances on any large scale, by subordinate local officers. Thus it is not easy to overcome the unwillingness of raiyats to resort to Government for such a loan or the reluctance of the local officers to readily grant their applications. There is, therefore, greater need for special efforts to see that the raiyats are encouraged to benefit by these loans in times of distress, than to prevent our officers from going to the other extreme of granting loans where they are not needed and thereby demoralising the raiyats.

54. *Advances for the purchase of fodder.*—Arrangements had been made for the transport and supply of fodder, and accordingly the advances granted to individual raiyats for the purchase of fodder amounted to about Rs. 15,000 in the whole State. Of this, the largest portion, being about Rs. 6,400, was advanced in Tumkur, Rs. 2,320 in Chitaldrug, about Rs. 2,000 in Bangalore, Rs. 1,895 in

Kolar, Rs. 1,210 in Shimoga, Rs. 694 in Mysore, Rs. 487 in Kadur and only Rs. 50 in Hassan.

55. *Advances for the purchase of bullocks and seed grains.*—For some years past the mortality among cattle has been steadily increasing, and the prevalence of rinderpest and other diseases during the season of distress tended to increase such mortality. As the failure of crops brought about a depletion of the stock of seed grains, timely instructions were issued to local officers to attend to the disposal of applications for advances for the purchase of bullocks and seeds before the close of the usual harvest and *jatra* seasons, and accordingly a sum of nearly one and a half lakhs was advanced to raiyats for these purposes during the year. Of this amount, the Tumkur, Kolar and Chitaldrug Districts exhausted the largest portion, the figures for those districts being approximately Rs. 42,000, Rs. 40,000, and Rs. 30,800, respectively, while Bangalore utilized about Rs. 15,000, Hassan Rs. 13,300 and Shimoga Rs. 5,000 and the Kadur District absorbed the bulk of the balance of about Rs. 4,000. Arrangements were also made to purchase and stock good seed *ragi* in the Bangalore and Kolar Districts and to issue them at cost price in the proper season to such of the poor raiyats in the affected tracts as needed them. Seeds to the value of nearly Rs. 4,000 were thus purchased and stocked for being issued on the condition, generally, that the raiyats should make good their cost after the next harvest.

56. *Advances for earthwork to Minor Tanks.*—Ordinarily when Minor Tanks have to be restored, Government undertake to do the stone and masonry portions of the work at their own cost, and the raiyats have to perform the earthwork, free of cost as their contribution. During this season, as the poorer raiyats could not support themselves while performing such work, and as it was necessary to provide as much work as possible for people in distress within easy reach of their homes, Government in their Order No. R. 2541-51—Agri. 69-08-3, dated 31st October 1908, as a special case, sanctioned the grant of advances to raiyats for doing their share of earthwork, and consequently the restoration of a very large number of such tanks was taken in hand. In this way a sum of nearly Rs. 40,000 was utilized during the year, the Kolar District having spent about Rs. 14,700, Tumkur Rs. 10,000, Bangalore Rs. 4,700, Chitaldrug Rs. 4,000, Mysore Rs. 3,000, Hassan Rs. 1,600, Kadur Rs. 1,000 and Shimoga Rs. 600.

57. *Advances for the maintenance of restored tanks.*—It has been the recognised duty of raiyats in Mysore to maintain all restored tanks, whether major or minor, in proper order by attending to their annual maintenance work; if they fail to do this, the necessary earthwork and repairs are executed by Government and the cost is recovered from the raiyats at fault as a revenue demand. But as a special case, and for the reasons explained above, permission was given to grant advances to raiyats for this purpose in cases where, owing to adverse seasonal conditions or other unavoidable causes, they had been unable to do the earthwork, and also where the repairs, such as the clearing of silt etc., afforded easy labour to the needy, in the affected tracts. The amounts so advanced have not been separately indicated in the Deputy Commissioners' reports and have been included in the amounts shown under "advances for earthwork to Minor Tanks," the advances for these two purposes having been made out of a common grant.

Besides this, an expenditure of Rs. 18,000 (more than thrice the amount usually spent on this account) was also incurred under the ordinary rules referred to above, the Mysore and Kolar Districts having utilized the largest amounts, *viz.*, Rs. 10,300 and Rs. 4,600, respectively.

58. *Works.*—The construction of irrigation wells and *saguvali kattes* and the execution of earthwork and the repair of tanks by the raiyats from the advances made by Government, provided congenial employment to a large number of people in close proximity to their homes. In order, however, to enable such of the agricultural and cooly classes as could not easily procure such employment, to successfully tide over the season, Public Works Department officers employed local labour wherever possible on all their usual works, and Government sanctioned the expansion of works ordinarily executed annually in the Local Fund and Public Works Departments such as the construction, repair or improvement of roads, *pakka* or temporary drinking water wells, *gokattes*, *hondas* and other works of public utility, as well as unrestored Minor Tanks all over the affected tracts.

These works were conducted under the '*Amani*' system wherever practicable; but when, owing to difficulty of supervision or other cause, this was not quite convenient, they were given out on *contract* to the patels or other leading villagers, on the distinct understanding, that none but local labourers should be employed on them.

I was not, at the same time, oblivious of the need which might arise for large works and had accordingly arranged for several large works being undertaken all over the affected tracts and had also discussed with local officers about the selection and the starting of some of the larger projects likely to give employment to not less than 500 to 1,000 labourers at a time; but happily there was no need for commencing any such works.

59. *Rates of wages.*—As regards the wages of labour, it was considered inexpedient to lay any hard and fast rules about the rates to be allowed for the different works at the very commencement. But it was distinctly understood by all the District Officers that the remuneration for work done and the amount of wages earned *per diem* by the different classes of workers should, as far as possible, be approximated gradually to the scale allowed in the Famine Code.

The works executed through the Revenue agency comprised not only those carried out at the expense of Government, but also a large number such as earthwork to tanks, etc., carried out by the villagers themselves with money advanced by Government as recoverable loans. In both classes of these works, a large number was given out on petty contract to the village officers subject to the supervision and control of Revenue officers, and the wages were generally lower than those paid by the Public Works Department in the same neighbourhood. For example, the Public Works Department rate for earthwork on tanks including watering and tamping was 8 cubic yards the rupee, but in the Revenue works the rates for petty contracts ranged from about 10 to 14 cubic yards the rupee, according to the demand for labour in the locality and the nature of the soil and other conditions. This would work out at the rate of 2½ to 4 annas for a male adult, 1½ to 2¾ annas for a female adult and from 1 to 1½ annas to a working child per day.* When it is considered that with these earnings the labourers were expected to maintain their non-earning dependants also, these rates will not appear excessive; but in order to prevent undue crowding on works it was strictly enjoined that the rates should be gradually lowered as people got accustomed to the work and were able to do a good task work. It may be stated that there was nowhere a rush to the works and it was only people who were actually in want that resorted to them. It was also further provided that when seasonal conditions became worse and larger works were undertaken or when the people began to neglect their dependants causing an increase in gratuitous relief, the wages should be fixed according to the Famine Code with reference to the ruling prices of food grains. In the larger works undertaken in the Nagamangala Taluk, the Executive Engineer adopted, with the approval of Government, rates which were about 75 per cent of the normal. The labourers who resorted to them consented to work at these rates but did not continue long as the seasonal conditions had improved.

* NOTE.—It should be observed that private employers of labour paid 4 annas for male coolies and 3 annas for the female coolies for a full day and 2 annas or 1½ annas to the same coolies for a half day.

With regard to the various works carried out by the Public Works Department, as most of them were more or less ordinary works to be carried out during the year and as some of them had been given out to the contractors on the basis of normal wages, the rates could not be modified. But even there in regard to unskilled labour such as the collection of metal or earthwork, efforts were made to keep down the rates as much as possible. There were necessarily some variations in the wages paid at different centres and at various times, but it would serve no useful purpose to detail them here.

60. *Revenue and Local Fund Works.*—The number of coolies employed on Revenue and Local Fund works in the several districts, on the last day of each month, from January to June 1909, is shown below :—

District	January	February	March	April	May	June
1. Tumkur ...	4,058	3,619	1,849	1,818	1,404	2,499
2. Kolar ...	1,361	1,056	1,472	2,334	1,257	1,606
3. Chitaldrug ...	484	1,583	1,084	539	584	257
4. Bangalore ...	507	585	706	647	577	593
5. Hassan ...	168	252	498	1,327	503	318
6. Shimoga ...	210	298	347	118	46	8
7. Mysore ...	...	91	237	208	87	92
8. Kadur ...	...	...	53	205	30	14
Total ...	6,788	7,484	6,246	7,196	4,488	5,387

61. *D. P. W. Works.*—Similar statistics are not available for all the months in respect of works under the management of the Public Works Department, but the following statement shows approximately the number of labourers engaged on such works on the last Saturday of March, April, May and June 1909 :—

District	March	April	May	June	Remarks
1. Hassan	40	638	1,601	1,486	
2. Chitaldrug	45	1,063	613	1,187	
3. Kolar	110	495	1,039	513	
4. Tumkur	522	674	335	227	
5. Bangalore	183	185	227	10	
6. Mysore	126	45	36	35	
7. Shimoga	54	79	*	*	* Works completed. No relief works were started in the district.
8. Kadur	...	...	...	...	
Total ...	1,080	3,179	3,851	3,458	

62. *Expenditure incurred.*—Proceeding next to the consideration of expenditure incurred in this connection Government sanctioned a special grant of Rs. 1,20,000 for the construction of drinking water wells and other works of public utility, and a sum of about Rs. 1,57,000 for fresh works under the Minor Tanks Restoration Scheme. The amounts actually utilized in the several districts out of these grants are shown below :—

District	Drinking water wells and other works of public utility	Stone and masonry works to Minor Tanks (new works) under Minor Tanks Restoration Scheme
1. Tumkur	34,000	23,025
2. Kolar	24,565	30,369
3 Bangalore	5,528	20.342
4. Hassan	9,672	9,917
5. Chitaldrug	13,337	4,092
6. Mysore	5,494	5,301
7. Shimoga	2,892	2,526
8. Kadur	507	1,474
Total ...	95,995	97,040

It will be seen that nearly a lakh of rupees was actually spent on each of these classes of works during the year, the Tumkur and Kolar Districts having naturally absorbed the largest amounts. In fact the demand for drinking water wells and similar works was so great in these two districts that almost the whole of the allotments of Rs. 34,000 and Rs. 24,715 sanctioned to them were utilized before the close of the year, and at one time the Deputy Commissioners applied for such large grants that the Government suggested that the allotments should be carefully husbanded by resorting, as far as possible, to temporary or *katcha* wells at small cost, *pakka* wells being taken up only when absolutely needed.

The Mysore, Hassan and Shimoga Districts which had applied for and obtained fairly appreciable grants under these heads, failed to work out the same in time, probably because their requirements had been over-estimated.

63. In addition to the above, a sum of more than half a lakh was expended on works undertaken for the relief of distress by the Public Works Department, and of this amount Rs. 17,270 was spent in the Chitaldrug District, Rs. 11,230 in the Hassan District, Rs. 10,660 in the Kolar District, Rs. 9,100 in the Tumkur District and Rs. 3,090 in the Bangalore District.

64. The following is a resume of works executed in each district:—

(*a*) In the Bangalore District, it was at one time apprehended that the influx of people from the affected parts into the city might be so great as to render it necessary to provide some special works for them, and accordingly in their Order No. Public Works 286-92—1860-6, dated 10th March 1909, Government were pleased to sanction a project for opening out the northern extension of Malleswaram at an outlay of Rs. 70,000, for affording adequate employment for such people; but fortunately the rains of the latter months of the year made it unnecessary to push through the project, as a relief work. A sum of about Rs. 5,500 was spent in sinking 24 *pakka* or *katcha* drinking water wells and repairing or otherwise improving the existing wells or *gokattes* all over the affected parts of the district; and Rs. 20,000 on tank works.

(*b*) In the Kolar District, a sum of Rs. 24,565 was expended on 185 works of public utility including drinking water wells and another sum of Rs. 43,752 on irrigation works, about 213 tank works having been executed (inclusive of incomplete works, of the previous year). In addition to these, an outlay of nearly Rs. 44,000 was incurred on 134 Municipal works, 231 District Fund works and 11 works executed by the Public Works Department; and the Deputy Commissioner reports that, in all, 388,683 units were relieved during the year on such works.

(*c*) In the Tumkur District, an outlay of Rs. 17,462 was incurred on permanent wells, Rs. 1,304 on temporary wells and *hondas* in tank beds, and the comparatively large sum of Rs. 8,098 was spent on *gokattes* alone, other works of public utility absorbing about Rs. 7,000. The total number of all such works sanctioned on account of distress was 383, with an estimated cost of Rs. 47,985, and some of them, being only of a temporary nature, intended to afford labour to the cooly classes, were stopped when the seasonal conditions improved.

(*d*) In the affected tracts of the Mysore District, an expenditure of Rs. 4,065 was incurred on 48 permanent wells, and a small sum of Rs. 190 on 50 *katcha* wells, and Rs. 1,238 on other sanitary improvements. The disbursements made from Provincial Funds on account of stone and masonry works to Minor Tanks amounted to about Rs. 5,800, and the Deputy Commissioner notes that an amount of nearly Rs. 9,500 was spent on 102 District Fund and Municipal works. In March 1909 two big tank works, one near Anchechitnahalli and the other near Chikyagati in the Nagamangala Taluk, were started under the supervision of the Public Works Department on lines somewhat similar to "test works." The latter being also situated close to the affected parts of the Mandya Taluk, the Deputy Commissioner reports that it served the requirements of both the taluks. The rates at first offered by the Public Works Department on these works did not prove sufficiently attractive to laborers, and even when prospects of increased rates were held out, the attendance of coolies was not at any time so large as to indicate keen distress.

(*e*) In the Hassan District, an outlay of over Rs. 15,000 was incurred from Municipal and District Funds, and an additional sum of nearly Rs. 9,700 was spent out of the special grant sanctioned for the purpose, on drinking water wells and other works of public benefit. In all 252 works were thus executed, out of which 73 related to the construction of new wells, 26 to repair of old ones and the rest to road repairs, improvement of cart-tracks, removal of prickly-pear, dismantling of fort wall, filling in of insanitary trenches, etc. An expenditure of Rs. 10,156 was also incurred on stone and masonry works to Minor Tanks in the district, the number of tanks dealt with having been 27 in the affected tracts.

As the works enumerated above were found insufficient to provide employment to people in need of daily wages, particularly in parts of the Channarayapatna Taluk, three major tank works were started there as expansion of ordinary

public works, and the repair of the Channarayapatna-Tiptur road was specially undertaken. The total expenditure on these works amounted to Rs. 12,165.

(f) In the Shimoga District, 34 well works, 8 works relating to the repair of *hondas* and *kattes*, and 12 other works such as filling up trenches, etc., were executed at a cost of about Rs. 1,220 from District Funds, and Rs. 2,892 from the special grant made for drinking water wells and other works of public utility. In addition to the above, an expenditure of Rs. 2,526 was incurred on stone and masonry works to Minor Tanks.

(g) In the Kadur District, only portions of the Kadur Taluk were badly off, and even there the raiyats generally found employment on ordinary works under the Public Works and Local Fund Departments and under private employers of labour. The coffee estates also afforded the usual amount of labour to coolies and others who flocked into the *malnad*. It was only in one village named Vokkalgere in the Yagati hobli that the villagers could not find work, and a tank work was started for their benefit. About 50 persons, mostly villagers of Vokkalgere and of the adjoining village of Belagur in the Hosdurga Taluk, attended the work daily for about two months; but with the heavy rainfall in the first week of May they betook themselves to their fields. Accordingly, only a small sum of Rs. 703 was spent in the district out of the allotment granted for drinking water wells, for sinking 3 permanent and 3 temporary wells.

(h) In the Chitaldrug District, an expenditure of Rs. 13,337 was incurred out of the special grant for works of public utility and an amount of Rs. 16,334 was spent by the District Board on 162 wells, 19 *gokattes* and 49 other works. The most useful undertaking was the construction of a road from Talak to Naikanhatti, about 8 miles in length, and situated in one of the most affected tracts. This work was started with only 16 coolies from one village, but the average soon rose to 217, the highest number on any one day having been 425. Coolies from 23 different villages attended, 82 per cent of them being agriculturists whose small holdings had suffered during the season. The Deputy Commissioner notes that this work afforded employment and relief to a number of agricultural labourers, in a form most suited to their conditions and capacity. The Public Works Department incurred an outlay of Rs. 3,836 in collecting metal as a measure of relief. Twenty-one tanks were dealt with under the Minor Tanks Restoration Scheme, at an outlay of Rs. 4,092.

65. *Remissions and suspensions of revenue.*—In their Proceedings No. R. 4332-70—Agri. 105-08-1, dated 4th January 1909, the Government authorized suspension of half the assessment on dry lands where crops had totally failed and the remission of half the assessment on wet lands under tanks which did not receive any water-supply or the crops on which withered for want of sufficient water; and also of the *mohatarfa* taxes in the case of persons paying eight annas and under; and in their Proceedings No. R. 4993-4—Agri. 112-08-2, dated 19th January 1909, they directed the remission of the entire *kulbanni* for the year in the three severely affected districts of Tumkur, Kolar and Chitaldrug and the affected parts of other districts.

66. Subsequently, on my representing to Government that if the total failure of the crops were regarded as the criterion, much hardship would be caused to the raiyats, as those who had a very poor harvest of 2 to 4 annas which could not cover even the cost of cultivation would not be benefited by the orders, the Government were pleased to grant more liberal concessions as follows:—

(1) Assessment on lands classed as wet.—Throughout the Kolar and Tumkur Districts and the affected parts of other districts, remission of half the assessment was allowed on lands classed as wet under whatever source of irrigation, provided the crops thereon had totally failed or the outturn was not more than 25 per cent of a normal crop, *i.e.*, not more than 4 annas out of a normal of 16 annas. The same rate of remission was allowed on occupied waste within the tract, although no remission could be granted on '*Mamool* Waste,' *i. e.*, occupied land which is not cultivated regularly in a normal year and which, it may be presumed, would have been left uncultivated even if the season had not been unpropitious. This concession was allowed also on lands classed as wet even when dry crops were raised thereon with or without Government water,

but the average rate of dry assessment prevailing in the village was levied in addition to the unremitted half of the assessment, if the crop had not entirely failed.

(2) *Assessment on lands classed as dry.*—The collection of one-half of the assessment was suspended in the case of lands classed as dry which had yielded no crops or not more than 25 per cent of a normal crop; the lands classed as 'dry' on which a water rate had been separately levied for the use of Government water receiving also the same treatment as lands classed as 'wet.'

(3) *Assessment on lands classed as garden.*—Lands classed as '*bagayet*' usually cultivated with wet crops were allowed the same treatment as wet lands and the Deputy Commissioners were specially empowered to suspend the collection of half assessment on other garden lands, if there was a great loss of arecanut or cocoanut trees or their produce.

(4) *Minor inam lands and whole inam villages.*—These concessions were also extended to minor *inam* lands charged with full assessment, or with a quit-rent or *jodi*, equal to or more than the full survey valuation, and to lands in whole *inam* villages under the management of Government.

67. As the final orders of Government in regard to suspensions and remissions of land revenue were passed on 30th May 1909, they could not be carried into effect fully, before the close of the year.

68. *Effect of the concessions on the finances of the State.*—The Deputy Commissioners of Bangalore and Tumkur have not been able to furnish actual figures about the amounts of suspensions and remissions in their districts. But adopting their estimates and the actuals as furnished, so far, by the other districts, the amount of revenue suspended may be taken at about 5·61 lakhs for the whole State, and the amount of remission at something over 4½ lakhs as shown in the margin.

	Rs.
Land Revenue	... 3,96,600
Hulbanni	... 42,800
Mohatarfa	... 12,800

69. The amount of land revenue the collection of which was suspended was largest in the Kolar District, being Rs. 2,24,364 or nearly half of the whole amount suspended in the State, while in the Tumkur District it is estimated at Rs. 1,82,000. Next in order comes Kadur, with suspensions amounting to Rs. 43,029, followed by Chitaldrug and Mysore where they amounted to Rs. 41,584 and Rs. 30,885, respectively. The estimate for Bangalore under this head comes to about Rs. 22,000; while in Hassan and Shimoga Districts where large amounts had been collected before receipt of Government orders Rs. 14,027 and Rs. 3,350, respectively, were postponed.

70. As in the case of suspensions, remission of land revenue in the Kolar District came up to nearly half the total remissions for the State, being about Rs. 1,75,700, and in the Tumkur and Bangalore Districts it is estimated at Rs. 70,000 and Rs. 52,000, respectively. The figures for the other districts stand as follows:—

	Rs.
Mysore	35,800
Chitaldrug	30,800
Shimoga	20,400
Hassan	11,100
Kadur	1,477

71. There is no information regarding the amount remitted under *Mohatarfa* in the Bangalore District. The Deputy Commissioner of Mysore notes that no remission was allowed in his district. The figures for the remaining districts are as follows:—

	Rs.
Kolar	5,100
Tumkur	5,000
Chitaldrug	1,500
Hassan	1,000
Kadur	200
Shimoga	70

72. The amount of remission under *hulbanni* was largest in the Kolar District, being Rs. 15,086. In the Tumkur and Chitaldrug Districts which were

similarly affected, the remissions amounted to Rs. 12,000 and Rs. 8,614, respectively. The figures for the remaining districts were Hassan Rs. 2,700, Mysore Rs. 2,016, Kadur Rs. 1,477 and Bangalore Rs. 744.

73. *Relief to Artizans.*—Among the artizans the weavers were most affected by the distress owing to the waning demand for their products on account of the scarcity; Government very promptly assigned funds to the different Deputy Commissioners for advances to the weavers, at centres where they were most needed. The grant for this relief was Rs. 50,000 for the whole State, and permission was given to utilize amounts recovered for making fresh advances. The terms on which the advances could be made were generally regulated with reference to local needs and circumstances. In the Bangalore District, advances for the relief of weavers were granted in the Bangalore City and in Dodballapur town. The advances were laid out in buying ordinary cloths of small value, for which the weavers could not find a sale in the open market, at prices fixed by a committee of experts in the trade. These experts were given a small commission in return for their trouble and their guaranteeing the realization of the advances by the sale of the cloths when trade improved. In Bangalore, the City Municipal Vice-President was in charge. About 7,100 cloths were purchased up to the end of June 1909 at a cost of Rs. 26,631. At Dodballapur, 391 cloths were purchased at a cost of Rs. 1,189. The latter amount is reported to have been fully recovered. In the Kolar District, leading weavers were advanced fixed sums of money, and they undertook to supply on credit either yarn or cash to the poorer amongst them. The sum advanced amounted to Rs. 1,200. In the Tumkur District, the expenditure incurred under this head was Rs. 2,150 in the shape of advances to merchants who undertook to buy cloths from weavers at their own risk for a commission of 5 per cent on the value of the goods purchased by them, and the number of weavers relieved was 294. In the Mysore District, the Deputy Commissioner obtained a supply of yarn for Rs. 500 from the Mysore Spinning and Weaving Mill at Bangalore and distributed the same to the weavers of Melkote and one or two villages in Krishnarajpete Taluk. The woven cloths were taken as security for the money advanced. The weavers were thus enabled to earn wages, without much difficulty, as their goods commanded sale in the market and they were able to repay the price of yarn supplied to them. At Melkote, Government also purchased cloths prepared by some of the weavers to the value of Rs. 386. The cloths thus purchased were left in charge of the Vice-President of the Mysore City Municipality for disposal. In the Mysore City the "Lakshmi Sahaya Nidhi Co-operative Society" undertook to buy the cloths from the weavers till the distress disappeared, with the assistance of a Government loan of Rs. 3,000 repayable at the end of a year, a small commission being allowed for its labour. The number of weavers benefited through the medium of this Society up to the end of June 1909 was 3,600. In the Shimoga District some weavers of Channagiri Taluk were relieved by an advance of Rs. 300, moiety of which has since been recovered. In the Chitaldrug District a sum of Rs. 3,247 was advanced for the relief of 123 families of weavers of the Hosdurga Taluk. The weavers were given yarn to the value of Rs. 2,216 and also small advances in cash, the whole sum being repayable in two yearly instalments. In the Hassan and Kadur Districts no necessity arose for this kind of relief.

74. *Grain Compensation Allowance.*—As *ragi*, the staple food grain, was selling at less than 12 seers the rupee the Government in their Order No. 2707-24—Agri. 31-08-4, dated 7th November 1908, sanctioned with effect from 1st November 1908, grain compensation allowance at the following rates to the low paid officials and menials in Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur and Kadur Districts:—

1. To officials drawing a pay exceeding Rs. 16 *per mensem* but not exceeding Rs. 20, Rs. 2 per mensem.

2. To officials drawing a pay not exceeding Rs. 16 *per mensem*, Re. 1 *per mensem.*

3. When the pay is less than Rs. 5 the extra allowance to be increased so as to bring up the aggregate pay and allowance to Rs. 6 *per mensem.*

This order was extended to Shimoga District in Government Order No. R. 3090-312—Agri. 31-08-9, dated 20th November 1908, and to the remaining districts of Mysore, Hassan and Chitaldrug in Government Order No. R. 3981-4019—Agri. 31-08 17, dated 19th December 1908. The cost incurred under this head was

Rs. 1,54,507 for the whole State from November 1908 up to the end of June 1909, as detailed below :—

		Rs.
1.	Bangalore District (including disbursements made in the State Huzur Treasury)	47,051
2.	Mysore	29,688
3.	Kolar	18,667
4.	Tumkur	16,396
5.	Shimoga	13,440
6.	Kadur	11,917
7.	Chitaldrug	9,455
8.	Hassan	7,892

75. For affording relief to the *Totis* and *Talavars* on whom the extra work of guarding the *Ookads* and patrolling the roads in the State devolved, and to *Totis* and *Talaris* employed on revenue work in the affected parts, Government sanctioned small extra allowances, the former being given an allowance of one rupee each for a period of three months from 1st January to 31st March 1909, from the grant under the Police Budget, and the latter being given cash allowances under Section 177 of the Famine Code, as also gratuitous relief wherever such relief was admissible under the Famine Code.

In the affected parts of the Chitaldrug District however an increased allowance of Rs. 2 *per mensem* for each *Toti* or *Talavar* employed on Revenue work was specially sanctioned from 17th February till the end of June 1909.

76. The Shanbhogs and Patels of the affected villages in the Tumkur and Shimoga Districts were given their *potgi* amount in advance.

77. *Special arrangements for the import of food grains and fodder.*—Owing to the steady rise in prices of food grains and the gradual depletion of stock in the markets and also the difficulty felt for fodder, it was considered desirable to stimulate imports from abroad; and the Government accordingly deputed Mr. C. Srikantesvara Aiyar, Deputy Commissioner of the Kolar District, to interview the authorities of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company, on the question of reduction of the railway freight on fodder and food grains.

78. Thanks to the prompt and sympathetic response of Mr. W. B. Wright, General Traffic Manager, concession rates of freight on fodder were notified and brought into effect from the 1st of March 1909; and besides the reduced rates already in force for rice booked from Bezwada, Guntur, Tenali and other places, he brought about a speedy settlement of negotiations with the British India Steam Navigation Company for adopting special reduced "through" rates for rice, from Rangoon over the sea, to stations on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway line. The effect of these measures was to give a fresh impetus to the importation of Burma rice; and the advent of this cheaper food grain in the market, not only brought considerable relief to the distressed people, but also had the marked effect of generally steadying the prices of local rice and other food grains. Burma rice was largely imported and consumed in the districts of Kolar, including the Gold Fields, Bangalore and Tumkur; and it found its way even into the *malnad* districts of Hassan and Kadur, having been taken up the ghats by means of carts from Mangalore. Rice from Bezwada, Guntur and Tenali was imported into the Kolar, Bangalore and Chitaldrug Districts.

79. As regards import of fodder from outside the State, in addition to the concession rates of freight granted by the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway authorities, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja undertook to bear 75 per cent of even the reduced charges of freight. Nevertheless, fodder does not seem to have been imported to any appreciable extent, beyond 21 waggon loads of ragi straw, imported into Goribidnur Taluk from Anantapur, and some paddy straw from the North Arcot District and other places, by a few persons of the Bowringpet Taluk.

It may be stated that but for the fall of some unusual showers in Kolar and Mysore Districts in January which helped some grass to sprout, and the early *mungar* showers which fell generally in all the districts in April and May, there would have been almost a fodder famine and the distress would have become so grave that imports of both fodder and food grains would have assumed a much keener aspect, emphasising the importance and the benefit of these concessions, which have already wrought so much of good to the people.

CHAPTER VIII.

OTHER ARRANGEMENTS.

80. *Railborne export and import trade.*—In order to enable the Deputy Commissioners to get from the Railway authorities information concerning unusual movements of food grains by rail as prescribed in Section 35 (*d*) of the Mysore Famine Code, I requested the Government in the latter part of November 1908 to move the Railway authorities to furnish the necessary information. On 19th December 1908, the Secretary to Government, Railway Department, informed this office that intimation had been received from the Residency that the Station Masters had been instructed to furnish weekly statements of the quantity of food grains received at stations for transmission to other stations or for local delivery. A circular was issued on 22nd December 1908 to the Deputy Commissioners requesting them to arrange for the collection of railway statistics of both imports and exports of four of the principal food grains, *viz.*, rice, paddy, *ragi* and *javar*, for the months of October, November, December, and January 1907-08 and 1908-09. They were further requested to depute a responsible taluk official to such of the Railway stations as were within their jurisdiction for collecting and submitting the required statistics direct to this office. A form was prescribed to ensure uniformity, and cards containing the form were printed and distributed to all the Amildars.

It was in the first week of February that figures for the four months of October, November, December, and January 1907-08 and 1908-09 were received. On a comparison of the figures it was observed that there was a great increase in imports under all heads. This was specially remarkable in the case of rice and *ragi*, the increase being over 300,000 and 160,000 Bengal maunds, respectively. There was an equally significant fall in the exports under rice, paddy and *javar*. With regard to *ragi*, it was noteworthy that there was a slight increase of exports, especially in the Chitaldrug District, where there was a good outturn of this crop in the Holalkere Taluk. The high price of *ragi* must have acted as a temptation to the raiyats to sell away a large portion of their produce in the earlier months. Taking the export and import trade of *ragi* for the whole State, we find that the exports exceeded the imports during the four months of 1907-08 by more than 20,000 Bengal maunds, while the imports during the corresponding period of 1908-09 exceeded the exports by nearly 140,000 maunds. It is thus obvious that the people were hard pressed for *ragi* owing to the calamitous failure of the rains. The above figures and conclusions receive additional support from the statement showing the railborne trade in the half-year ended September 1908. These figures relate to trade with places outside the State, internal trade between stations within the State itself being ignored. Here too, there was not only a decrease in exports but also an increase in imports under paddy, rice, cotton, jaggory and oil-seeds. Again according to the railborne trade statistics furnished for the half-year ending 31st March 1909, which is the latest received in the office, 99,029 maunds were exported under rice, paddy and *ragi*, while the quantity imported was 1,054,637 maunds. The enormous excess of imports over exports amounting to 955,608 maunds, clearly proves that a large supply of food stock had to come from outside the State. A glance at the figures for the months of February, March, April and May 1909, compiled from the invoices of the several Railway stations within the State, reveals the fact that the total imports exceeded the total exports by 672,163 maunds, this time *ragi* showing an excess of imports over exports, and thus indicating that no more stock of *ragi* was available for exports, and that the people were therefore compelled to import this most important staple food grain. The import trade was still going on in the months of June and July showing an excess of 145,974 maunds in June and of 224,342 maunds in July. The imports continued to outstrip the exports even so late as August, though the excess fell to 158,290 maunds. These facts make it clear that the decrease in the outturn of crops was so great as not only to cause a reduction in the usual surplus available for export, but also to render it necessary to import enormous quantities to feed the people.

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81. *Watch on Santhes.*—As a further precaution for gauging the needs of the people, arrangements were made to keep a vigilant watch on the conditions of the grain markets in the various outlying stations of the State. The prices of food grains continued to rule high all over the State, and reports from districts regarding the paucity of supply of food grains and fodder became alarming. The information regarding the condition of markets contained in the Weekly Season Reports, being too general and mostly based on the condition of markets at head-quarters, gave but an inadequate idea of the actual condition of the markets in the rural parts, and some means had therefore to be devised to ascertain the state of the grain markets in the taluks and villages, week by week, as early as possible.

Accordingly, with the approval of Government, a circular was issued on 18th January 1909, requiring the Deputy Commissioners of Districts to direct all Amildars and Deputy Amildars to arrange for the submission, direct to this office, of weekly returns in a prescribed form, showing the actual prices of the more important food grains such as rice (2nd sort), *ragi* and *cholum*, and of fodder and cattle in the weekly *santhes* or fairs in the several important outlying stations, and also the quantity offered for sale every week at such *santhes*. This work was entrusted to a responsible Government official, with instructions to send the returns by post on the very next day after the *santhe*.

The number of *santhes* or fairs of any importance from which the returns were received was about 228, out of about 362 stations in the whole State. The number of returns received was on an average 204 per week which may roughly be distributed as shown in the margin according to the week days on which the *santhes* or fairs were held. The number of returns received during the months of March, April, May and June was on an average 816 per month, and in regard to the number received from each district, the districts stand in the following order:—Hassan (152), Shimoga (128), Kolar (120), Bangalore (112), Chitaldrug (96), Mysore (88), Tumkur (80) and Kadur (40).

Week days.		*No.*
Sunday	...	34
Monday	...	31
Tuesday	...	22
Wednesday	...	25
Thursday	...	28
Friday	...	24
Saturday	...	40
Total	...	204

These returns were carefully scrutinized and checked in my office, and points worthy of note or on which immediate action had to be taken were forthwith brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioners.

82. *Scrutiny of Excise Sales.*—It was also thought desirable to look into the monthly sales of arrack and toddy to see what effect, if any, the distress had on their consumption by the people, and at my instance, Government requested the Excise Commissioner on 19th March 1909 to make arrangements for the prompt despatch by the Range Inspectors to my office direct, of monthly talukwar returns showing the extent of sale of arrack and toddy. Accordingly the returns were received from the beginning of April 1909 and were carefully scrutinized. It was, however, found that the seasonal conditions had not appreciably affected the number of applications for trees for drawing toddy and the issue of arrack from the Bonded Depot. The few fluctuations noticed were such as could be explained by ordinary local causes, such as the drying up of juice in the trees due to drought, the movement of labourers from one place to another, the opening of new works or the closing of old ones, etc. The scrutiny of these returns was discontinued on 17th June 1909 after the seasonal conditions had begun to improve.

83. *Weekly Statements of Funds sanctioned, etc.*—In order to have early information of the progress of relief operations in the several taluks from time to time and watch the disbursements of funds and the need for further allotments, various returns were prescribed, which may be briefly described as follows:—

In a Government order of 18th December 1908, weekly returns were directed to be obtained from districts showing individual works sanctioned by Deputy Commissioners and put in hand to enable Government to be in touch with the expenditure incurred on drinking water wells and other works of public utility; and by another order of the 6th January 1909, weekly statements were required of amounts allotted by me to the districts for various measures of relief and the amounts actually utilized by the Deputy Commissioners.

In order to save time and unnecessary correspondence, Circulars were issued for submission of the returns direct to me by the officers actually making these

disbursements, such as Amildars, Deputy Amildars and the Vice-Presidents of the City Municipalities of Bangalore and Mysore. The statements contained information regarding all loans and advances sanctioned and disbursed under the several heads of relief, the progress of works undertaken in the Revenue Department, and the number of men on works and on receipt of gratuitous relief. These returns were checked, compiled and consolidated in my office and published in the *Mysore Gazette* every week.

84. At the instance of the Comptroller to Government, monthly statements containing detailed information regarding the expenditure incurred in each taluk, were also got from the Deputy Commissioners of Districts as a check on the weekly returns.

85. These monthly and weekly returns were also reviewed and the reviews were submitted to Government. It cannot be said that the weekly returns were always accurate. Some of the taluks took a long time to understand the headings and give correct figures and others were irregular in submitting the returns. On the whole, however, the consolidation and the publication of the returns had a good effect. They conveyed a fair idea as to the total amount spent and the total number of people employed on the works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, week after week. They further served the useful purpose of making obligatory the maintenance of proper accounts, as far as possible, of the various relief operations.

86. As works had been started in the Public Works Department also with the object of affording relief in several parts of the State, the Chief Engineer published from 13th March 1909 in the *Mysore Gazette*, weekly returns of the number of people earning wages in the works undertaken by that Department and the extent of local labour employed on them.

87. *Simplification of Accounts and Procedure.*—In this connection I may also refer to the arrangements made for the supply of funds and the instructions issued as to the responsibility of the several officers concerned.

Under the system prescribed by the Mysore Famine Code, there is no definite channel through which money could be made available from the Taluk Treasury to the several Civil Officers employed on relief operations in the taluk, who have to recoup their advances by sending bills direct to the Taluk Treasury. As this system was likely to lead to confusion, the Comptroller recommended that some officer of standing should be fixed for every Taluk Head-quarter, through whom money could flow to the various fields of operations and to whom all officers could send in their bills for scrutiny and recoupment. As relief operations were not anticipated to be sufficiently extensive to warrant the appointment of separate officers for this purpose, the Amildar of each taluk was made the Taluk Head-quarter Famine Officer, and detailed instructions were issued by the Comptroller to all officers in regard to the issue of funds, the accounts to be maintained and the system of audit to be adopted, supplementing, and in a few cases modifying, the provisions of the Famine Code.

88. *Imprests.*—To enable local officers to carry on the several works started within their jurisdictions, all Deputy Commissioners were granted special imprests calculated at Rs. 1,500 for themselves, Rs. 500 for each Amildar and Rs. 250 for each Deputy Amildar, in the affected tracts of their districts. To meet cases where it might not be possible for Sub-Divisional officers to get the funds required by them for immediate expenditure, they were allowed a permanent advance of Rs. 100; and a sum of Rs. 50 was placed at the disposal of each District Superintendent of Police for affording casual relief to wanderers.

89. *Additional establishment.*—The preliminary information regarding the seasonal conditions and the state of the people was collected by the existing staff in the districts, but as soon as relief measures were actually commenced the need for a few additional hands was felt. Our measures, as already explained, being mostly of a preventive character and such as had to be carried out by the revenue officers, there was no necessity for organising any large and costly special establishments.

90. As, however, village works were undertaken on a large scale, there was need to strengthen the number of Shekdars (who correspond to Revenue Inspectors in Madras and Circle Inspectors in Bombay) for their supervision. The

relief measures entailed the maintenance of additional accounts and returns in the taluk offices and the taluk staff had also to be strengthened. As the Deputy Commissioner's office had to consolidate the taluk reports and accounts, it had to be given some extra hands, and those selected for the work received a training in accounts in the Comptroller's office for about 15 days, before they were sent out. The starting of small and large works in the various parts of the affected taluks under the supervision of the Revenue Officers necessitated the aid of a superior officer of the Department of Public Works, in addition and without prejudice, to the work of the District Executive Engineers. The details of additional establishment entertained for each district are as follows:—

Bangalore District.—A clerk on Rs. 20 for work specially connected with the relief of weavers of the Bangalore City, and seven assistant Shekdars on a pay of Rs. 15 plus 10 each.

Kolar District.—Two accountants, one on Rs. 40 and another on Rs. 25 for the District Office; nine accountants on a pay of Rs. 20 to 30, one for each of the taluk offices excepting Chikballapur and thirteen assistant Shekdars on a pay of Rs. 15 plus 10 each, one for each taluk, excepting Kolar, Chintamani and Sidlaghatta, each of which had two assistant Shekdars.

A Revenue Probationer was also attached to the district and invested with 3rd Class Magisterial powers.

Tumkur District.—Two accountants, one on Rs. 40 and another on Rs. 25 for the District Office; eight accountants for the taluk offices, including Turuvekere Sub-Taluk, on Rs. 25 each; and seven assistant shekdars and five Work Inspectors distributed over the taluks. A Revenue Probationer with 3rd Class Magisterial powers was attached to the Gubbi Taluk and he was granted an extra allowance of Rs. 15 per mensem.

Mysore District.—One accountant on Rs. 40 for the District Office; an accountant, a Tank Inspector and a temporary *mestri* for the Mandya Taluk; an accountant, a temporary *mestri*, a Tank Inspector and a Shekdar for the Nagamangala Taluk; and an accountant, a Shekdar, a Tank Inspector and a Work Inspector for the Krishnarajpete Taluk. A Revenue Probationer was attached to the Nagamangala Taluk.

Hassan District.—One accountant on Rs. 40 for the District Office and two Shekdars for the Channarayapatna Taluk. The Judicial Gumastas of Hassan and Hole-Narsipur were temporarily deputed for duty in the Arsikere and Channarayapatna Taluks, respectively. A Revenue Probationer was attached to the Arsikere Taluk.

Shimoga District.—Three Shekdars, one for each of the taluks of Shimoga, Channagiri and Honnali.

Kadur District.—One accountant on Rs. 40 for the District Office and an accountant for each of the taluk offices of Chikmagalur and Kadur.

Chitaldrug District.—One accountant on Rs. 40 for the District Office, three accountants one for each of the taluks of Challakere, Hiriyur and Hosdurga and eight assistant Shekdars. The Taluk Sheristadars of Challakere and Hiriyur were temporarily invested with 3rd Class Magisterial powers. A Revenue Probationer was attached to the Hosdurga Taluk.

91. One officer of the rank of Assistant Engineer or Supervisor was attached to each of the eight districts for about five months from February to June. The pay of these officers was transferred from the Public Works Department Budget to the Revenue Budget. These officers greatly helped to insure the prompt and proper execution of works.

92. To keep an effective check on the works undertaken in the Revenue Department by constant inspection and explanation of details to the subordinate officers of the Revenue and Public Works Departments supervising such works, the Government, at my request, placed at my disposal temporarily the services of Mr. T. G. Lakshman Rao, Assistant Engineer, as my Personal Assistant, and he was on this special duty from 1st February till 20th September 1909. He inspected works in all the districts except Shimoga, toured for 127 days and visited 37 taluks.

He inspected 364 tank and well works estimated at Rs. 2,46,678. In the districts of Bangalore, Kolar, Mysore, Hassan and Tumkur his inspections were fairly exhaustive, while in the districts of Kadur and Chitaldrug they were rather hurried. He set right many of the errors committed by the subordinate staff both in the estimates and in the execution of works. He also explained to the Amildars and Sub-Divisional Officers the items of work that had to be carried on and how to construe plans and drawings and estimates and to check the accuracy of the drawings. While at head-quarters, he submitted his inspection reports, checked the programmes of works received from the districts, drew up circulars for the guidance of local officers and prepared the various diagrams and charts annexed to this report. He gave me entire satisfaction in the discharge of the duties entrusted to him. All his reports and the circular instructions issued to the districts have been formed into a separate file and preserved in this office for future reference.

To cope with the additional work thrown on my office staff, a small additional establishment of four hands at a cost of Rs. 210 *per mensem* was sanctioned with effect from 4th February till 30th September.

CHAPTER IX.

PRIVATE CHARITY.

93. One of the most gratifying features of the relief measures was the readiness with which the leading men of several stations in the State formed themselves into committees and associations and afforded relief to the deserving poor by selling *ragi*, the staple food grain, one or two seers more per rupee than obtainable in the local market. Care was taken to restrict such sales to poor men in small quantities, day after day, so as not to interfere with the sale of the articles at the markets to the well-to-do among the people, nor to compete with trade.

94. In the Bangalore City some of the leading merchants convened a meeting on 22nd November 1908 and formed themselves into a committee under the presidentship of Mr. Hariyanna. They started a fund designated 'the Bangalore City Relief Fund,' raised subscriptions amounting to about Rs. 13,000 by 25th December 1908 and arranged to purchase *ragi* and sell the same in four central places in different quarters of the city. The sale was confined to persons of limited means, selected by a committee who issued tickets and permitted somewhat cheaper rates to those who purchased not more than a quarter or half a rupee worth of *ragi* at a time. It was reported that about 4,050 families consisting of about 20,000 persons were helped in this way. This charitable work was continued till the end of June 1909 and the members of the committee deservedly earned the thanks and commendations of the Government.

At Channapatna respectable persons combined together and bought 700 *pallas* of *ragi* for Rs. 7,432, and sold at the cheap rate of 12 seers per rupee, at a total loss of about Rs. 1,600, which was made up by private subscriptions. A similar shop was also opened at the village of Nonnur, which had suffered from drought, and it is reported that Mr. Puttanna Setty of Channapatna Town and the patel of Nonnur deserve much credit for having carried on this charitable work at those stations. Similar arrangements were made at Dodballapur and Devanhalli where *ragi* was sold at 12 seers per rupee to the poor while the market rate was about 9 to 10 seers. At Devanhalli, Mr. Yele Krishnappa is reported to have sold *ragi* and imported Rangoon rice at favorable rates, at considerable loss to himself.

95. In the Kolar District, the leading men of Sidlaghatta, Chikballapur and Goribidnur Taluks and of Gudibanda Sub-Taluk formed themselves into committees and collected funds to help people in distress by selling *ragi* at cheap rates as early as October 1908. In Sidlaghatta Taluk 320 destitute persons were gratuitously fed at a total cost of Rs. 1,029 for a period of three months. In the Chikballapur Taluk and at Gudibanda, charitably disposed persons maintained destitutes and sold *ragi* to the poorer classes on favorable terms. In Goribidnur Taluk *ragi* was sold to the poorer raiyats and coolies for two months with the aid of private subscriptions. The value of the private charity thus distributed in the whole district is estimated at about Rs. 2,281.

96. In the Tumkur District, in most places, private individuals and associations helped the poor, both pecuniarily and by sale of *ragi* in small quantity at reduced rates.

97. In the Mysore District, public subscriptions were raised in the Mandya Taluk and a cheap grain shop was opened from 2nd September 1908 to 6th January 1909. During this period 4,772 seers of *ragi* were sold to 1,976 persons at a reduced rate of 12 seers per rupee. Sowcar Mr. Bojjanna of Mysore is said to have taken large quantities of *cholam* to Mandya and sold it there at 1 to 1½ seers above the local market rate. At Nagamangala also similar relief was distributed by private agency.

98. In the Hassan District a committee of some influential gentlemen of the Hassan Town was formed on 24th March 1909 and subscriptions amounting to Rs. 400 were raised. The indigent poor were relieved by 16,000 seers of *ragi* being distributed to them.

99. The Deputy Commissioners of Kadur, Shimoga and Chitaldrug Districts have not furnished information on this subject.

CHAPTER X.

TOTAL COST.

100. *Direct relief.*—The amount spent on direct relief during the year was 3·20 lakhs of rupees, distributed under the different heads as shown below:—

		Rs.	
1.	Drinking water wells and other works of public utility	95,995	
2.	Stone and masonry works to Minor Tanks (new works)	97,040	
3.	Relief works in the Public Works Department.	51,357*	* Figure adopted from the published weekly statements.
4.	Relief to weavers and other artizans ...	39,863	
5.	Gratuitous relief	24,156	
6.	Supply of fodder	8,965	
7.	Establishment	2,899†	† Figure adopted from the Comptroller's preliminary accounts.
	Total ...	3,20,275	

101. *Cost per day-unit.*—As elsewhere observed, some works had to be given out on contract to patels and other influential raiyats; so it is not possible to state exactly the total number of persons employed on them. Making, however, a general calculation from the total number of persons employed or relieved on special days, as reported in the returns submitted by local officers, it may safely be inferred that about two and a quarter million persons received relief of one kind or other on one day, which would be equivalent to 12,363 persons on receipt of relief each day, for a period of six months. Distributing the total expenditure amongst this number, the cost per unit relieved would amount to about 2 annas 1·6 pies, which is somewhat in excess of the average of 1 anna 6·2 pies and 1 anna 10 pies obtained in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh and Central Provinces respectively. But it has to be borne in mind that our relief operations were neither carried on, on a sufficiently large scale, nor spread over a sufficiently long period as in the other Provinces, and most of the works carried out by us were more or less expansions of ordinary works, which, at other times, would have cost us a great deal more.

102. Distribution of gratuitous relief cost only about 10·3 pies per unit as against 14 pies in the Central Provinces and 11·9 pies in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. This is satisfactory as the price of food grains ruled higher than in those Provinces; and it is attributable to the fact that the relief was administered in the houses of the recipients in villages, and the doles given were moderate.

103. The advance to weavers works out at 1 anna 11 pies against an average of about 3 annas 3 pies in the Central Provinces, but this is probably due partly to the limited extent of relief as the distress had not yet assumed serious proportions, and partly to the utilization of the sale proceeds of articles for further advances.

104. *Indirect relief.*—The outlay on indirect measures of relief such as loans for land improvements and *takvai* advances, grain compensation allowance and remissions and suspensions of revenue, amounted to about 16·12 lakhs as detailed below:—

		Rs.	
1.	Takavi and land improvement loans ...	3,75,636	
2.	Advances for earthwork to minor tanks ...	39,189	
3.	Advances for the maintenance of restored tanks (approximately)	18,000	
4.	Purchase of seed grains	3,639	
5.	Suspensions of land revenue	5,61,245	
6.	Remissions of land revenue, etc.	4,52,282	
7.	Additions to existing establishments ...	7,739*	* Adopted from the Comptroller's preliminary accounts.
8.	Grain compensation allowance	1,54,507	
	Total ...	16,12,237	

Deducting from this sum Rs. 30,000 under *takavi* and land improvement loans, and Rs. 5,000 under advances for the maintenance of restored tanks, or Rs. 35,000 in all, the amount which may be expected to be spent in any normal year, the expenditure on indirect relief, debitable to the distress, may be fairly put down at Rs. 15·77 lakhs.

105. *Cost of distress of 1891-92.*—The total cost to Government under both direct and indirect measures of relief in 1908-09 thus comes to nearly 19 lakhs which is only slightly in excess of the expenditure incurred on the distress of 1891-92, when the total outlay was Rs. 18,05,700 as shown below:—

	Rs.
1. Village relief works, collection of tangadi bark, etc.	2,10,300
2. Drinking water wells	1,33,700
3. Allowances to totis and talavars	28,800
4. Gram allowance to savars	20,200
5. Gratuitous relief	1,000
6. Relief to weavers	85,300
7. Loans for irrigation wells	2,80,000
8. Saguvali kattes, etc.	23,400
9. Extra officers and establishments	23,000
10. Remissions	4,00,000
11. Suspensions of revenue	6,00,000
Total	18,05,700

106. *Probable recoveries.*—Out of the total outlay of 19 lakhs the probable recoveries may be estimated as follows:—

	Rs.
1. *Takavi* and land improvement loans	3,45,636
2. Advances for earthwork to Minor Tanks	39,189
3. Advances for the maintenance of restored tanks	13,000
4. Purchase of seed grains	1,820
5. Advances to weavers and other artizans	32,000
6. Suspensions of land revenue	4,44,000
Total	8,75,645

107. *Net cost.*—The net cost to Government of all the relief operations conducted during the year may thus be taken roughly at 10¼ lakhs of rupees. These calculations do not exhibit the total outlay on account of the distress as some expenditure has been incurred after the end of the official year. This outgoing may, however, be estimated at about Rs. 2,00,000, which would bring the total cost of distress to 12¼ lakhs of rupees.

CHAPTER XI.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

108. I have, in the foregoing chapters, attempted, as far as possible, to describe the distress, its origin and effects on the people, the various measures adopted to relieve their wants and the cost of such measures. In order to convey a clear idea of it, the previous history of the State was referred to and the conditions antecedent to the recent distress and other years of scarcity, since the great famine of 1877-78, were dwelt upon. From a careful perusal of the facts brought together it will be evident that since the devastating famine of thirty years ago, though there have been many years of alarm and apprehended scarcity more or less unfavorable to the country, the State has had to face serious distress in two years, *viz.*, 1891-92 and 1908-09. Of these two, the distress of last year was the more severe in intensity both on account of greater number of antecedent bad years as well as of the very deficient and unseasonable rainfall, combined with insufficient stock of food grains and abnormally high prices. But the anxiety from the withholding of rains or scanty fall from time to time, and the more or less partial failure of crops, which are almost chronic with us, had prepared the people to be peculiarly sensitive to the changes in seasonal conditions, so that the break in the rains of 1908 did not come upon them as a sudden surprise or create panic. Instead of being discouraged, the people were, if anything, in a mood to discount the future, and to the best of their abilities began to husband their resources with great care, though it must be admitted that a good many, tempted by high prices, had parted with their stock for export outside the State. One noticeable peculiarity was that some of the raiyats in the affected parts tried to save their cattle and to make the best of their small stock of grains by sending some of their cattle and men to more favoured localities where they believed the crops were better and fodder was available. But when these anticipations were disappointed, there was some suffering among the returning people and cattle. But, beyond this, the people adjusted themselves to the situation in a most admirable manner and freely represented their difficulties to the authorities and co-operated with them in all the relief measures instituted for their benefit. Though there were but few officers who had seen the famine of 1877-78, or partaken in the energetic relief operations of 1891-92, all the Deputy Commissioners and their Assistants rose to the occasion and tried their best to loyally carry out the instructions given to them.

109. *Effect of distress on men and cattle.*—It is a gratifying feature that there were no deaths among the people due to starvation during the past season of distress, nor was there any apparent increase of mortality from ailments incidental to underfeeding or privation. In fact, the death-rate during the year was normal and did not exceed that of the previous year. Although there were some cases of plague, cholera and small-pox here and there, it must be said that the public health was, on the whole, good.

110. A different account has, however, to be given in regard to the fate of cattle in the State. The total mortality during the year under report was far in excess of that of the previous year. The deaths which numbered so high as 131,791 during the year 1907-08 went up further to 187,276 during the year under report. The district of Tumkur suffered worst having lost about 43,000 head of cattle. All the districts except Kadur show an increase in mortality as compared with the previous year. Not only did the cattle diseases like rinderpest, anthrax, black-quarter and septicæmia hœmorrhagica work much havoc, but also the scarcity of water and fodder felt during the period of distress contributed to the increased mortality to some extent in spite of the efforts made to import fodder, to throw open the forest reserves for free grazing and to supply raiyats with grass cut in forest areas and transported by railways to taluks in which there was a demand for the same.

111. *Supervision.*—I was constantly on tour ever since the conditions assumed a threatening aspect, visiting the affected parts, conferring with the Deputy Commissioners, instructing the Sub-Division Officers and Amildars personally and studying the situation on the spot. During this period, I visited the head-quarters of all the districts and inspected 30 taluks and travelled over 1,080 miles by road and about 1,000 miles by rail, and kept the Government fully informed of the conditions at every stage.

112. *Economic condition of the people as tested by the scarcity.*—From the very commencement there was no inclination to ignore or minimise the existing state of affairs. The general conviction of all the principal officers was, that it was by far the much cheaper and truer economy in the long run, to keep up the strength and spirit of the people by early adoption of relief where really needed, than to wait till they had exhausted all their resources; and the adoption of such early measures may be considered as the real cause of the absence of many of the evil effects of a serious distress. The truth of this remark would have become more evident, if the unusual and copious rains of April and May 1909 had not improved the situation and averted the calamities of a severe famine. The after effects were not also so serious as they might have been, owing to various other causes. The people had greater staying power. Owing to the gradual rise in prices of food grains during the last two decades, there has been a steady expansion of cultivation, though it must be feared that the average outturn of crops has somewhat suffered. The expansion of our railway system and the completion of the Bangalore-Harihar Railway line, which traverses the worst famine tracts, have benefited these parts immensely by creating a demand for their produce in ordinary years, at highly remunerative prices. The pressure of the population on land in Mysore is comparatively light and, thanks to the liberal policy of Government, there has been a large expansion in the execution of public works providing employment for the landless classes; and, besides, the extensive improvements in the chief cities, and the starting of a few industries, have to a considerable extent increased the chances of employment for skilled labour and artizans on good wages. Further, the rise in the price of land has given to the raiyats a valuable asset and raised their credit in the market. These causes have not only materially raised the standard of living of the people, but also made it practicable for them to save a little more than before and to borrow with greater ease. The people had thus better staying power last year than 20 or 30 years ago. Nevertheless there can be no doubt that, in spite of all these favourable conditions, the people both of the lower and middle classes had to economise and stint in their habits of living during the past season of distress; but its short duration and the policy of Government in continuing the usual public and other works on ordinary conditions and granting loans on a liberal scale for improvements, to provide profitable employment to the people, have had the most beneficial results; no one suffered from starvation or disease due to distress, and there has been no increase in crime other than that due to ordinary fluctuating causes. On the whole the people have neither lost in self-respect nor in moral power, and the distress has left them, though decidedly poorer, yet a thoroughly contented and law-abiding people. The attitude of all the people in the State in this somewhat trying season was one of absolute confidence in the Government and of unbounded loyalty to His Highness the Maharaja. And all the Deputy Commissioners had everywhere the hearty co-operation of the leading citizens and merchants in the various arrangements made.

113. *Future prospects.*—At the time I am submitting this report the agricultural situation is one of hopefulness. Crops are in a good condition. The later rains have been both copious and timely. There is everywhere enough of drinking water for men and cattle. Fodder is available in abundance and a bumper harvest is expected in many taluks.

114. *Co-operation of other Departments.*—My thanks are due to the Chief Engineer, the Conservator of Forests and the Comptroller to Government for their hearty co-operation in all the arrangements made for relief operations.

115. *Notice of officers.*—It may be invidious to single out for commendation a few officers while almost all have worked hard and loyally. The burden of the relief operations fell heavily upon the Deputy Commissioners of Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug in the main, as these were the districts most affected, and they all rose fully equal to the occasion. Mr. Srikantesvara Aiyar was incessantly on the move in his district, placing himself in close personal touch, not only with the Revenue Commissioner and the Government, but also with the people. Mr. Doraswami Iyer kept himself fully posted up with the conditions of his district, almost every part of which was affected, and guided his subordinates with prudence and vigour in the administration of relief measures. Mr. Chengiah Chetty was constantly moving about the affected taluks and personally attended to the relief operations,

enquiring into the wants of people and giving them encouragement. My office had very heavy work to do and fully coped with it. My second Assistant, Mr. K. Subba Rao, was in charge of all the returns and correspondence and attended to the work with his usual zeal and thoroughness. Mr. T. G. Lakshman Rao, Assistant Engineer, acted as my Personal Assistant in supervising the execution of all kinds of works in the districts during the eight months he was on deputation, and was of great help to me and the District Officers.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. RANGASWAMI IYENGAR,

Revenue Commissioner.

CONTENTS OF THE APPENDICES.

			PAGE
Statement	I.	Rainfall	42
Do	II.	Outturn in annas of certain crops during 1907-08 and 1908-09 ...	43
Do	III.	Prices of food grains in seers per rupee	43
Do	IV.	Rail-borne trade (exports and imports) of the Mysore State in paddy, rice and ragi for two years from 31st March 1907 to 31st March 1909	44
Do	V.	Comparative internal rail-borne trade in rice, ragi, paddy and jawar for the months of October to December 1907 and 1908 and for the month of January 1908 and 1909	44
Do	VI.	Rail-borne trade (internal) of the Mysore State from February to August 1909	45
Do	VII.	Cattle mortality during 1907-08 and 1908-09	45
Do	VIII.	Number of persons gratuitously relieved on the last day of each month from January to June 1909	46
Do	IX.	Number of persons employed on works started for the relief of distress in the Revenue and Local Fund Departments, on the last day of each month from January to June 1909	46
Do	X.	Number of coolies employed on the last Saturday of each month on works managed by Public Works Department from March to June 1909	47
Do	XI.	Amount spent towards Takavi and Land Improvement Loans... ...	47
Do.	XII.	Amount of remissions and suspensions of revenue	48
Do	XIII.	Advances made for earthwork to unrestored Minor Tanks ...	48
Do	XIV.	Advances made for the maintenance of restored tanks	48
Do	XV.	Expenditure incurred on stone and masonry works to Minor Tanks (new works)	49
Do	XVI.	Expenditure incurred out of the Special Grant of Rs. 1,20,000 sanctioned for drinking water wells and other works of public utility	49
Do	XVII.	Expenditure incurred on the purchase of seed grains	50
Do	XVIII.	Expenditure incurred in the administration of gratuitous relief ...	50
Do	XIX.	Expenditure incurred on account of grain compensation allowance...	50
Do	XX.	Expenditure incurred on relief of weavers	51
Do	XXI.	Expenditure incurred for the supply of fodder	51

I.

Rainfall statement.

District	Year	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Bangalore	Average of 31 years	2·91	4·45	6·03	5·62	2·30	0·43	0·04	0·11	0·38	1·18	3·83	2·54
	1891-92	2·31	2·48	0·38	5·37	0·31	0·07	...	...	0·02	1·57	4·20	5·92
	1908-09	2·67	2·76	4·33	2·07	0·09	...	0·89	...	0·03	2·87	5·74	0·87
Kolar	Average of 31 years	2·90	3·82	5·52	5·10	2·79	0·59	0·04	0·08	0·29	0·98	2·96	2·47
	1891-92	1·86	3·07	1·35	3·82	0·67	0·20	...	0·04	0·04	1·90	2·33	7·89
	1908-09	2·33	1·30	4·67	1·94	0·09	0·05	2·01	...	...	2·23	5·14	1·46
Tumkur	Average of 31 years	2·26	2·88	5·33	5·02	1·91	0·31	0·03	0·06	0·18	1·34	2·91	2·45
	1891-92	1·12	2·11	1·21	3·98	0·74	0·09	...	0·02	0·05	2·58	2·43	7·42
	1908-09	1·76	1·18	3·70	1·65	...	.	0·80	0·02	0·10	1·25	6·13	1·41
Mysore	Average of 31 years	1·83	2·59	4·54	5·67	2·18	0·36	0·05	0·11	0·46	2·23	4·54	2·28
	1891-92	1·86	0·71	1·23	5·20	0·27	0·01	...	0·43	0·39	4·33	4·59	3·00
	1908-09	1·90	1·02	2·56	5·18	0·02	0·03	1·40	0·18	0·06	3·37	7·72	1·55
Hassan	Average of 31 years	7·40	4·61	3·87	5·64	2·31	0·46	0·09	0·12	0·33	2·23	3·28	5·28
	1891-92	9·30	3·41	1·26	7·28	1·18	..	...	0·21	0·04	2·98	4·30	1·96
	1908-09	9·91	3·66	0·55	3·07	...	0·02	0·33	0·01	0·29	1·05	8·75	5·78
Shimoga	Average of 31 years	21·16	11·78	5·51	5·27	1·47	0·23	0·08	0·04	0·26	1·68	2·88	12·92
	1891-92	25·44	11·60	2·86	8·70	0·52	...	...	...	...	2·05	6·57	6·55
	1908-09	31·74	12·89	0·96	2·53	0·09	..	0·04	...	0·02	0·54	6·42	13·17
Kadur	Average of 31 years	24·04	15·10	6·65	6·52	2·02	0·43	0·11	0·09	0·36	2·39	3·44	16·81
	1891-92	21·55	8·62	2·53	9·28	0·53	...	...	...	...	2·74	5·18	7·44
	1908-09	32·18	14·00	1·33	3·19	0·16	0·08	0·26	0·07	0·37	0·02	8·39	16·37
Chitaldrug	Average of 31 years	2·16	2·03	4·27	3·70	1·78	0·14	0·04	0·02	0·18	1·33	2·47	2·52
	1891-92	1·61	0·87	0·32	4·30	0·94	...	...	0·07	...	1·63	2·34	3·57
	1908-09	2·62	1·13	3·69	0·93	...	...	0·30	...	0·14	0·63	5·07	2·18

II.

Outturn in annas of certain crops during 1907-08 and 1908-09.

District	Paddy		Ragi		Horse gram		Cholam	
	1907-08	1908-09	1907-08	1908-09	1907-08	1908-09	1907-08	1908-09
Bangalore ...	5·2	5·0	7·1	6·3	5·4	4·8	6·2	5·1
Kolar ...	7·8	2·8	7·5	4·2	9·8	3·0	8·5	4·5
Tumkur ...	5·7	3·4	4·6	2·6	4·0	2·0	4·5	3·1
Mysore ...	10·7	10·9	7·9	6·2	8·3	4·1	8·0	6·3
Hassan ...	10·3	7·6	9·2	6·5	8·4	4·7	7·8	4·6
Shimoga ...	11·4	8·6	11·5	5·8	7·5	5·1	10·3	6·6
Kadur ...	11·3	5·9	9·1	4·7	7·3	6·2	6·3	5·4
Chitaldrug ...	8·6	4·6	8·0	5·3	5·3	3·5	7·8	4·1
Average ...	9·8	7·8	7·4	5·1	7·1	3·7	7·7	5·0

III.

Prices of food grains in seers per rupee.

District	Rice, 2nd sort	Ragi	Cholam	Bengal gram
Bangalore 1891	8·53	22·83	18·79	11·02
1906-07	7·81	14·28	...	9·27
1907-08	7·62	13·17	13·50	8·23
1908-09	6·55	11·04	13·00	7·12
Kolar 1891	9·46	23·58	17·46	10·20
1906-07	7·72	14·87	10·80	9·06
1907-08	7·10	12·94	...	7·60
1908-09	5·96	10·58	9·62	6·85
Tumkur 1891	9·65	26·67	17·09	11·15
1906-07	7·66	16·32	16·25	8·02
1907-08	7·43	15·58	17·10	7·16
1908-09	6·36	11·81	...	6·36
Mysore 1891	8·64	22·00	22·94	11·08
1906-07	8·84	14·63	16·47	9·12
1907-08	8·34	15·60	16·68	8·76
1908-09	7·45	13·16	13·16	7·58
Hassan 1891	9·33	28·81	...	10·81
1906-97	8·77	17·21	...	8·39
1907-08	8·48	17·90	...	8·07
1908-09	6·79	12·27	...	6·44
Shimoga 1891	10·66	27·35	25·28	12·84
1906-07	9·70	18·00	17·42	9·15
1907-08	8·46	17·50	17·04	8·09
1908-09	7·03	12·44	11·46	6·39
Kadur 1891	10·67	23·93	...	11·79
1906-07	9·42	17·00	14·45	8·44
1907-08	8·76	18·21	...	7·82
1908-09	7·06	11·79	9·00	6·85
Chitaldrug 1891	10·44	36·25	29·12	12·37
1906-07	8·50	17·33	17·46	8·42
1907-08	7·67	17·33	16·92	7·73
1908-09	6·30	13·04	12·96	6·15

IV.

Railborne Trade (Exports and Imports) of the Mysore State in Paddy, Rice and Ragi for two years from 31st March 1907 to 31st March 1909.

Quantity expressed in maunds of $82\frac{2}{7}$ *lbs.*

	Half-year ending 30th Setpember 1907		Half-year ending 31st March 1908		Half-year ending 30th September 1908		Half-year ending 31st March 1909		Total from 31st March 1907 to 31st March 1908		Total from 31st March 1908 to 31st March 1909		Difference. Decrease of Epxort (—), Increase of Import (+)	
	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import
Paddy...	315,500	1,730	333,485	2,638	279,539	8,987	49,665	30,784	648,985	4,368	329,204	39,771	— 319,781	+ 35,403
Rice ...	11,515	268,738	9,843	231,161	6,557	288,509	7,150	905,920	21,358	499,899	13,707	1,194,429	— 7,651	+ 694,530
Ragi ...	321,345	169	215,254	838	364,549	341	42,214	117,933	536,599	1,007	406,763	118,374	— 129,836	+ 117,367

V.

Comparative internal Railborne Trade in Rice, Paddy, Ragi and Javar for the months of October to December 1907 and 1908 and for the month of January 1908 and 1909.

	Export for the four months of October, November and December 1907 and January 1908	Export for the four months of October, November and December 1908 and January 1909	Difference	Import for the four months of October, November and December 1907 and January 1908	Import for the four months of October, November and December 1908 and January 1909	Difference	Remarks
Rice	63,920	41,949	— 21,971	179,544	480,342	+ 310,798	
Paddy	120,720	52,049	— 68,671	35,401	41,179	+ 5,778	
Ragi	73,095	79,740	+ 6,645*	52,314	216,738	+ 164,424	*Owing to large export from the Chitaldrug District.
Javar	66,915	60,162	— 6,753	60,162	69,319	+ 9,157	

VI.

Railborne Trade (internal) of the Mysore State from the month of February to August 1909.

	February 1909		March 1909		April 1909	
	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import
Rice	29,414	165,316	15,416	189,241	16,103	116,563
Paddy	7,094	19,570	4,904	6,733	4,345	4,288
Ragi	9,094	22,455	16,931	15,241	10,803	27,340
Javar	3,334	31,956	6,151	24,705	6,090	30,027

	May 1909		June 1909		July 1909		August 1909	
	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import
Rice	21,407	97,219	23,518	159,760	23,765	182,155	19,286	123,506
Paddy	5,043	4,485	5,500	10,340	1,727	2,334	2,594	3,648
Ragi	11,101	48,030	19,316	35,436	16,496	47,452	11,027	37,444
Javar	7,305	43,529	12,122	41,256	7,939	42,328	4,916	31,565

VII.

Cattle mortality during 1907-08 and 1908-09.

District	Died of sickness		Killed by wild beasts		Died from accidents and other causes		Total	
	1907-08	1908-09	1907-08	1908-09	1907-08	1908-09	1907-08	1908-09
Bangalore ...	8,458	12,829	1,212	873	7,703	11,504	17,373	25,206
Kolar ...	14,452	16,725	197	322	1,301	3,191	15,950	20,238
Tumkur ...	16,267	20,670	989	1,048	6,764	21,326	24,020	43,044
Mysore ...	4,388	16,241	775	885	5,949	5,009	11,112	22,135
Hassan ...	14,595	14,808	398	384	3,169	9,895	18,162	25,087
Shimoga ...	15,535	14,691	3,095	2,291	5,025	7,867	23,655	24,849
Kadur ...	10,589	5,514	810	1,064	2,821	6,003	14,220	12,581
Chitaldrug ...	4,269	7,927	356	330	2,674	5,879	7,299	14,136
Total ...	88,553	109,405	7,832	7,197	35,406	70,674	131,791	187,276

VIII.

Statement showing the number of men, women and children gratuitously relieved on the last day of each month from January to June 1909.

No.	District	January				February				March				April				May				June			
		Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total
1	Bangalore.	41	94	32	167	66	340	66	472	77	143	64	284	76	160	77	313	31	126	39	196	35	120	39	194
2	Kolar ...	223	532	224	979	239	627	167	1,033	206	509	127	842	187	444	131	762	134	325	99	558	90	225	73	388
3	Tumkur ...	164	327	110	601	374	843	324	1,541	339	844	365	1,548	310	722	269	1,301	172	193	68	433	27	62	30	119
4	Mysore ...	120	422	47	589	178	551	57	786	148	511	31	690	101	299	16	416	52	140	10	202	26	52	10	88
5	Hassan ...	2	2	...	4	2	2	...	4	15	26	10	51	12	54	111	177	7	5	7	19	...	...	...	...
6	Shimoga...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	5	3	2	...	5	3	2	...	5	3	2	...	5
7	Kadur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Chitaldrug	105	158	109	372	216	398	211	825	158	334	160	652	142	259	110	511	52	107	41	200	3	8	..	11
	Total ...	655	1,535	522	2,712	1,075	2,761	825	4,661	946	2,369	757	4,072	831	1,940	714	3,485	451	898	264	1,613	184	469	152	805

IX.

Statement showing the number of men, women and children employed on works, started for the relief of distress, under the management of the Revenue and Local Fund Departments, on the last day of each month from January to June 1909.

No.	District	January				February				March				April				May				June			
		Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total
1	Bangalore.	289	181	37	507	346	190	49	585	505	170	31	706	437	178	32	647	386	185	6	577	396	183	14	593
2	Kolar ...	965	335	61	1,361	691	325	40	1,056	1,005	393	74	1,472	1,552	745	37	2,334	865	368	24	1,257	1,213	300	93	1,606
3	Tumkur ...	2,201	1,606	251	4,058	2,445	1,031	143	3,619	1.230	503	116	1,849	1,172	580	66	1,818	944	400	60	1,404	1,519	765	215	2,499
4	Mysore ...	...	...	...	...	65	21	5	91	99	133	5	237	65	77	66	208	47	39	1	87	67	25	...	92
5	Hassan ...	125	43	...	168	161	91	...	252	244	208	46	498	698	573	56	1,327	228	273	2	503	137	181	...	318
6	Shimoga...	144	46	20	210	182	86	30	298	168	121	58	347	67	40	11	118	36	6	4	46	8	...	...	8
7	Kadur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	27	2	53	115	88	2	205	26	4	...	30	9	5	...	14
8	Chitaldrug	342	107	35	484	907	532	144	1,583	681	293	110	1,084	410	115	14	539	427	137	20	584	202	38	17	257
	Total ...	4,066	2,318	404	6,788	4,797	2,276	411	7,484	3,956	1,848	442	6,246	4,516	2,396	284	7,196	2,959	1,412	117	4,488	3,551	1,497	339	5,387

X.

Statement showing the number of coolies employed on the last Saturday of each month, on works managed by Public Works Department, from March to June 1909.

No.	District	March				April				May				June				Remarks
		Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	
1	Bangalore	117	64	2	183	137	44	4	185	162	63	2	227	4	6	...	10	
2	Kolar	81	28	1	110	272	206	17	495	572	457	10	1,039	293	195	25	513	
3	Tumkur	284	190	48	522	315	319	40	674	157	141	37	335	98	89	40	227	
4	Mysore...	45	81	...	126	17	28	...	45	14	22	...	36	10	25	...	35	
5	Hassan...	14	20	6	40	194	407	37	638	334	1,137	130	1,601	345	1,025	116	1,486	
6	Shimoga	32	15	7	54	39	31	9	79	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Works completed.
7	Kadur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No relief work started during the year.
8	Chitaldrug	21	20	4	45	354	611	98	1,063	277	318	18	613	493	653	41	1,187	
	Total ...	594	418	68	1,080	1,328	1,646	205	3,179	1,516	2,138	197	3,851	1,243	1,993	222	3,458	

XI.

Statement showing the amount spent towards Takavi and Land Improvement Loans, during the year 1908-09.

No.	District	Allotment	Total amount of loans sanctioned	Amount disbursed				Remarks
				Under Section 194 of the Land Revenue Code	For irrigation wells	For other Land Improvements	Total	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Bangalore	38,450	42,180	20,092	11,660	4,170	35,922	
2	Kolar	95,900	1,01,911	43,547	38,890	2,698	85,135	
3	Tumkur	1,17,300	1,20,971	51,731	58,682	3,078	1,13,491	
4	Mysore	22,300	14,563	1,799	1,025	10,515	13,339	
5	Hassan	18,450	17,350	12,950	1,950	1,700	16,600	
6	Shimoga	9,300	9,222	6,586	700	600	7,886	
7	Kadur	7,500	7,481	7,476	.....	.....	7,476	
8	Chitaldrug	1,20,550	1,17,699	36,864	45,450	13,473	95,787	
	Total ...	4,29,750	4,31,377	1,81,045	1,58,357	36,234	3,75,636	

XII.

Statement showing the extent of Remissions and Suspensions of Revenue granted during the year 1908-09.

No.	District	Amount of Suspensions	Amount of Remissions				Remarks
			Land Revenue	Hulbanni	Mohatarfa	Total	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	*Figures adopted from early forecasts.
1	Bangalore	22,073	52,333	744	Information not available	53,077*	
2	Kolar	2,24,364	1,75,712	15,086	5,100	1,95,898	
3	Tumkur	1,81,933	69,045	12,000	5,000	86,045*	
4	Mysore	30,885	35,818	2,016	Nil	37,834	
5	Hassan	14,027	11,120	2,700*	1,000*	14,820	
6	Shimoga	3,350	20,384	155	68	20,607	
7	Kadur	43,029	1,477	1,477	206	3,160	
8	Chitaldrug	41,584	30,790	8,614	1,437	40,841	
	Total ...	5,61,245	3,96,679	42,792	12,811	4,52,282	

XIII.

Statement showing the advances made for earthwork to unrestored minor tanks during the year 1908-09.

No.	District	Allotment	Total amount sanctioned	Total amount disbursed	Remarks
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Bangalore	9,000	10,691	4,668	
2	Kolar	23,000	39,111	14,741	
3	Tumkur	10,000	26,438	9,910	
4	Mysore	12,500	8,183	2,917	
5	Hassan	5,000	3,985	1,608	
6	Shimoga	11,000	1,205	683	
6	Kadur	5,000	2,878	1,047	
8	Chitaldrug	7,000	5,229	3,615	
	Total ...	82,500	97,720	39,189	

XIV.

Statement showing the advances made for the maintenance of restored tanks during the year 1908-09.

No.	District	Allotment	Total amount sanctioned	Total amount disbursed	Remarks
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	*Includes amounts disbursed from the allotment for advances for earthwork to unrestored Minor Tanks.
1	Bangalore ...	1,000	...	...	
2	Kolar ...	6,000	18,159	4,609	
3	Tumkur ...	700	...	40	
4	Mysore ...	14,050	25,873	10,361	†Advances granted for the maintenance of restored tanks have evidently been paid from the allotment for advances for earthwork to unrestored Minor Tanks.
5	Hassan ...	500	1,802	571*	
6	Shimoga ...	6,500	7,329	2,945	
7	Kadur ...	1,000	...	...	
8	Chitaldrug ...	250†	...	...	
	Total ...	30,000	53,163	18,526	

APPENDIX XV.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred during 1908-09, on stone and masonry works to Minor Tanks (new works under the Minor Tanks Restoration Scheme).

No.	District	Allotment	Amount of estimates sanctioned	Amount disbursed during 1908-09	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Bangalore	29,000	28,387	20,342	
2	Kolar	35,000	61,197	30,363	
3	Tumkur	20,000	50,023	23,025	
4	Mysore	10,000	31,070	5,301	
5	Hassan	17,700	15,591	9,917	
6	Shimoga	6,200	4,490	2,526	
7	Kadur	3,000	3,213	1,474	
8	Chitaldrug	5,000	6,293	4,092	
	Total ...	1,25,900	2,00,264	97,040	

APPENDIX XVI.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred during 1908-09, out of the special grant of Rs. 1,20,000, sanctioned for drinking water wells and other works of public utility.

No.	District	Allotment	Amount of estimates sanctioned	Amount expended during 1908-09	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Bangalore	7,000	7,070	5,528	
2	Kolar	24,715	28,450	24,565	
3	Tumkur	34,000	47,986	34,000	
4	Mysore	14,000	10,942	5,494	
5	Hassan	13,285	13,514	9,672	
6	Shimoga	6,500	6,481	2,892	
7	Kadur	1,000	833	507	
8	Chitaldrug	16,500	23,936	13,337	
	Total ...	1,17,000	1,39,212	95,995	

XVII.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred on the purchase of seed grains during 1908-09.

No.	District	Allotment	Value of seed grains purchased and stored	Remarks
		Rs.	Rs.	
1	Bangalore	2,500	1,939	
2	Kolar	2,000	1,700	
3	Tumkur	1,250	.....	
4	Mysore	.....	.....	
5	Hassan	.....	.....	
6	Shimoga	.....	.....	
7	Kadur	.....	.....	
8	Chitaldrug	.....	.....	
	Total ...	5,750	3,639	

XVIII.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred in the administration of gratuitous relief during 1908-09.

No.	District	Allotment	Total number of units relieved	Amount of expenditure incurred	Remarks
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Bangalore	2,000	37,961	2,028	*A sum of nearly Rs. 23 was spent in addition, on casual relief, in the unaffected parts of the district.
2	Kolar	7,000	1,34,563	6,342	
3	Tumkur	9,000	1,27,380	8,040	
4	Mysore	4,000	72,580	*3,005	
5	Hassan	1,000	4,314	272	
6	Shimoga	500	450	28	
7	Kadur	.....	.....	.....	A sum of Rs. 2 was spent on casual relief in the district.
8	Chitaldrug	6,000	72,520	4,441	
	Total ...	29,500	4,49,768	24,156	

XIX.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred on account of grain compensation allowance during 1908-09.

No.	District	Amount	Remarks
		Rs.	
1	Bangalore	47,051*	* Inclusive of Rs. 12,209, disbursed from the State Huzur Treasury.
2	Kolar	18,668	
3	Tumkur	16,396	
4	Mysore	29,688	
5	Hassan	7,892	
6	Shimoga	13,440	
7	Kadur	11,917	
8	Chitaldrug	9,455	
	Total ...	1,54,507	

XX.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred on relief of weavers during 1908-09.

No.	District	Allotment	Number of weavers relieved	Amount disbursed	Remarks
		Rs.		Rs.	
1	Bangalore	21,000	4,786	27,820	
2	Kolar	4,000	80	1,200	
3	Tumkur	4,000	294	2,150	
4	Mysore	8,000	65	5,146	
5	Hassan	1,000	...	...	
6	Shimoga	1,000	21	300	
7	Kadur	...	...	...	
8	Chitaldrug	4,000	123	3,247	
	Total ...	43,000	5,369	39,863	

XXI.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred on the supply of fodder during 1908-09.

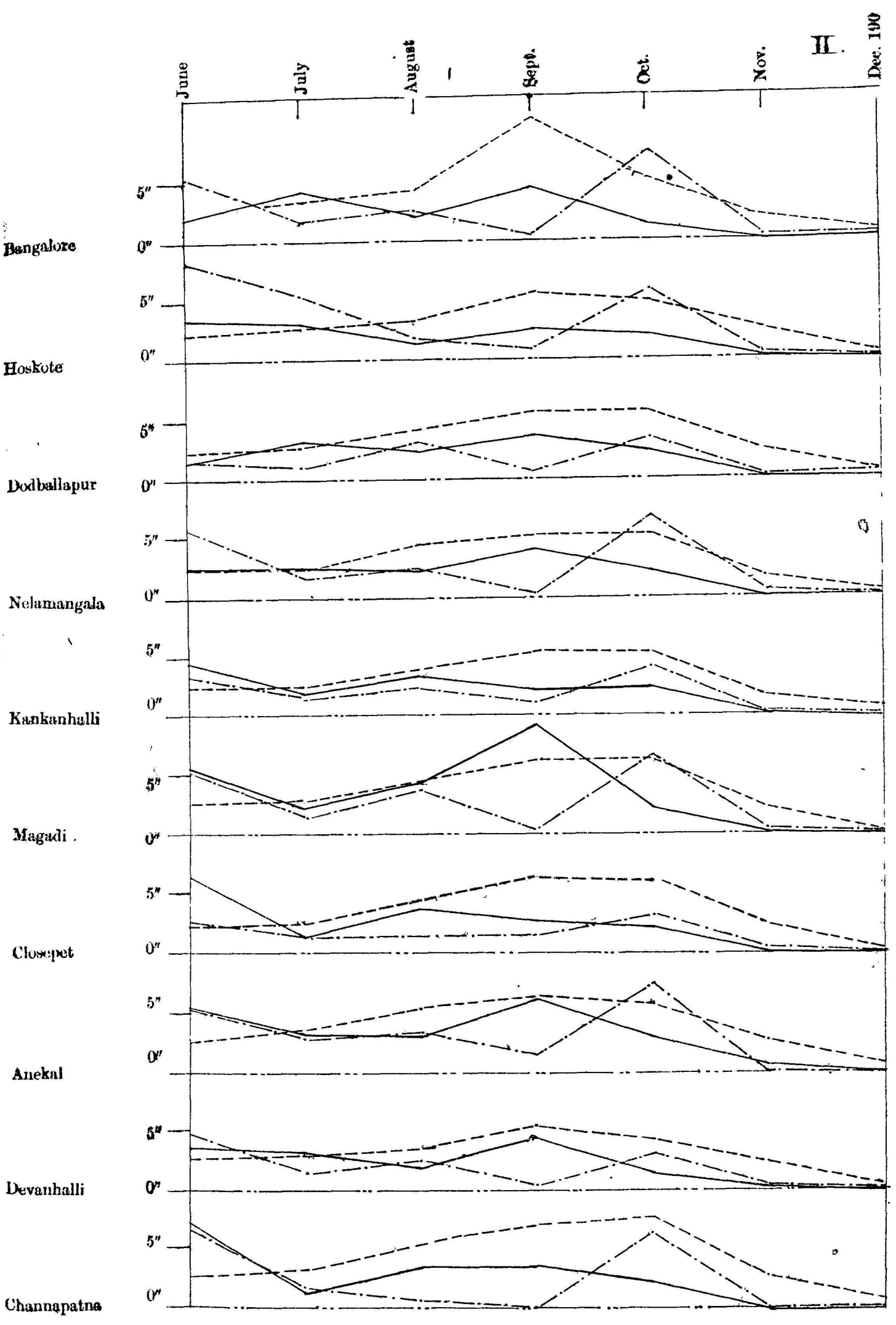
No.	District	Allotment in the Revenue Department	Amount expended			Remarks
			In the Revenue Department	In the Forest Department	Total	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Bangalore ...	...	...	25	25	
2	Kolar ...	...	510	...	510	
3	Tumkur ...	...	...	306	306	
4	Mysore ...	2,000	16	1,218	1,234	
5	Hassan ...	25	2	...	2	
6	Shimoga ...	...	...	5,379	5,379	
7	Kadur ...	...	...	1,509	1,509	
8	Chitaldrug ...	...	...	...	...	
	Total ...	2,025	528	8,437	8,965	

GPB—300—10-11-09.

Accession No. 1514 (B)
Date

LIST OF MAPS AND CHARTS.

SERIAL No.	SUBJECT	PAGE
1.	Map of Mysore showing deeply and slightly affected parts	i
2.	Charts showing the monthly rainfall during 1891 and 1908 with the average for 38 years—	
	(a) Bangalore District (all Taluks)	ii
	(b) Kolar do (do)	iii
	(c) Tumkur do (do)	iv
	(d) Mysore do (do)	v
	(e) Hassan do (Taluks of Hassan, Arkalgud, Channarayapatna, Arsikere and Hole-Narsipur)	vi
	Do do (Taluks of Manjarabad and Belur and the Sub-Taluk of Alur)	vii
	(f) Shimoga do (Taluks of Shimoga, Channagiri, Honnali, Shikarpur and Sorab and Kumsi Sub-Taluk) ...	viii
	Do do (Taluk of Sagar)	ix
	Do do (do of Nagar)	x
	Do do (do of Tirthahalli)	xi
	(g) Kadur do (all Taluks except Sringeri)	xii
	Do do (Taluk of Sringeri)	xiii
	(h) Chitaldrug do (all Taluks)...	xiv
3.	Charts showing fluctuations in the prices of ragi and rice from 1891 to 1908-09—	
	Bangalore District	xv
	Kolar do	xvi
	Tumkur do	xvii
	Mysore do	xviii
	Hassan do	xix
	Shimoga do	xx
	Kadur do	xxi
	Chitaldrug do	xxii
4.	Map of Mysore showing the outturn of ragi crop during 1908-09 ...	xxiii
5.	Map of Mysore showing the outturn of paddy crop during 1908-09 ...	xxiv
6.	Chart showing the number of persons relieved in the several districts of the State on the last day of each month from January to June 1909 ...	xxv
7.	Map of Mysore showing different kinds of works undertaken for the relief of distress in each Taluk	xxvi
.	Chart showing the expenditure on different heads of relief during the season of distress in 1908-09	xxvii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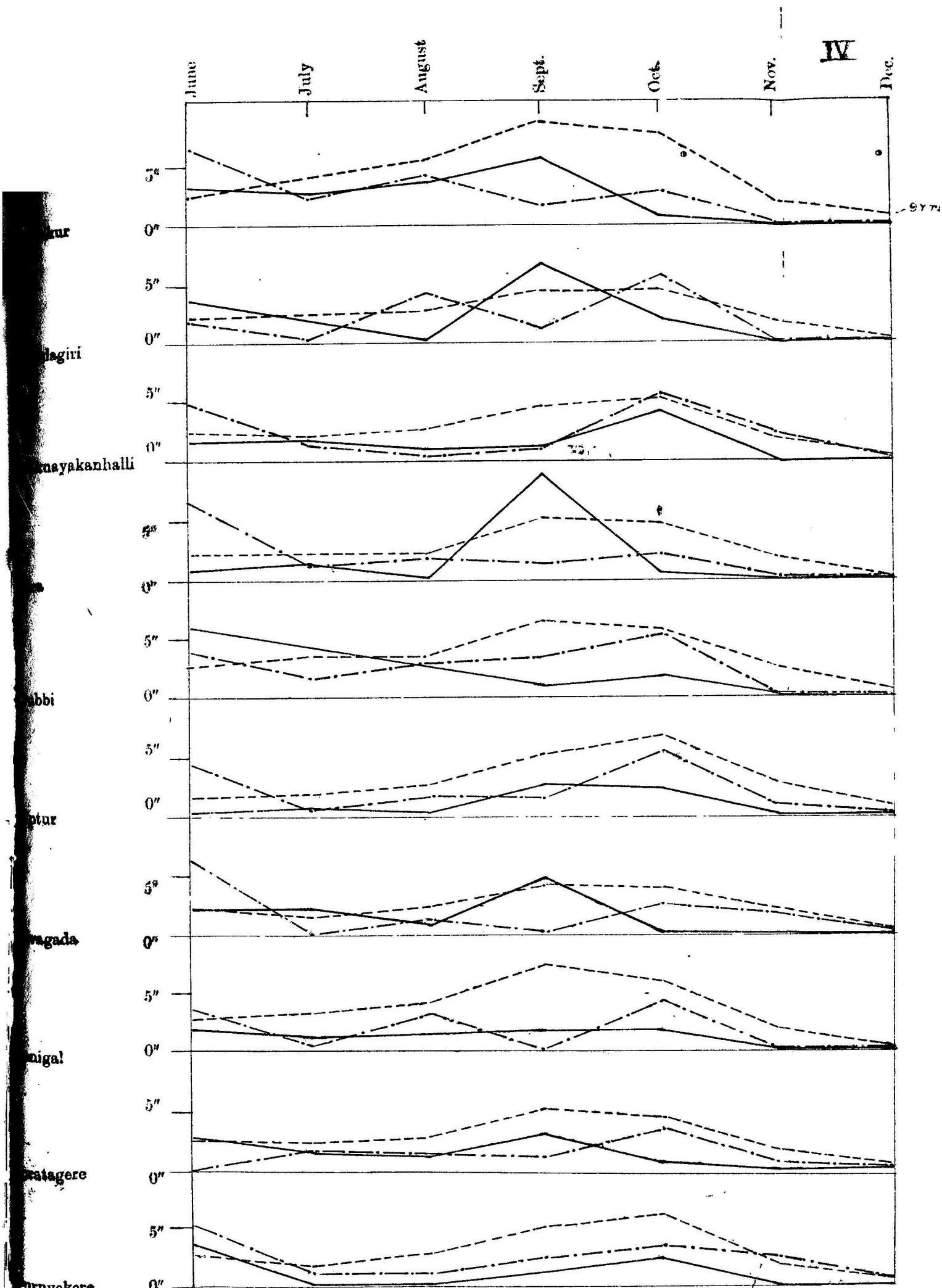
Do do 1891.
Average rainfall for 38 years.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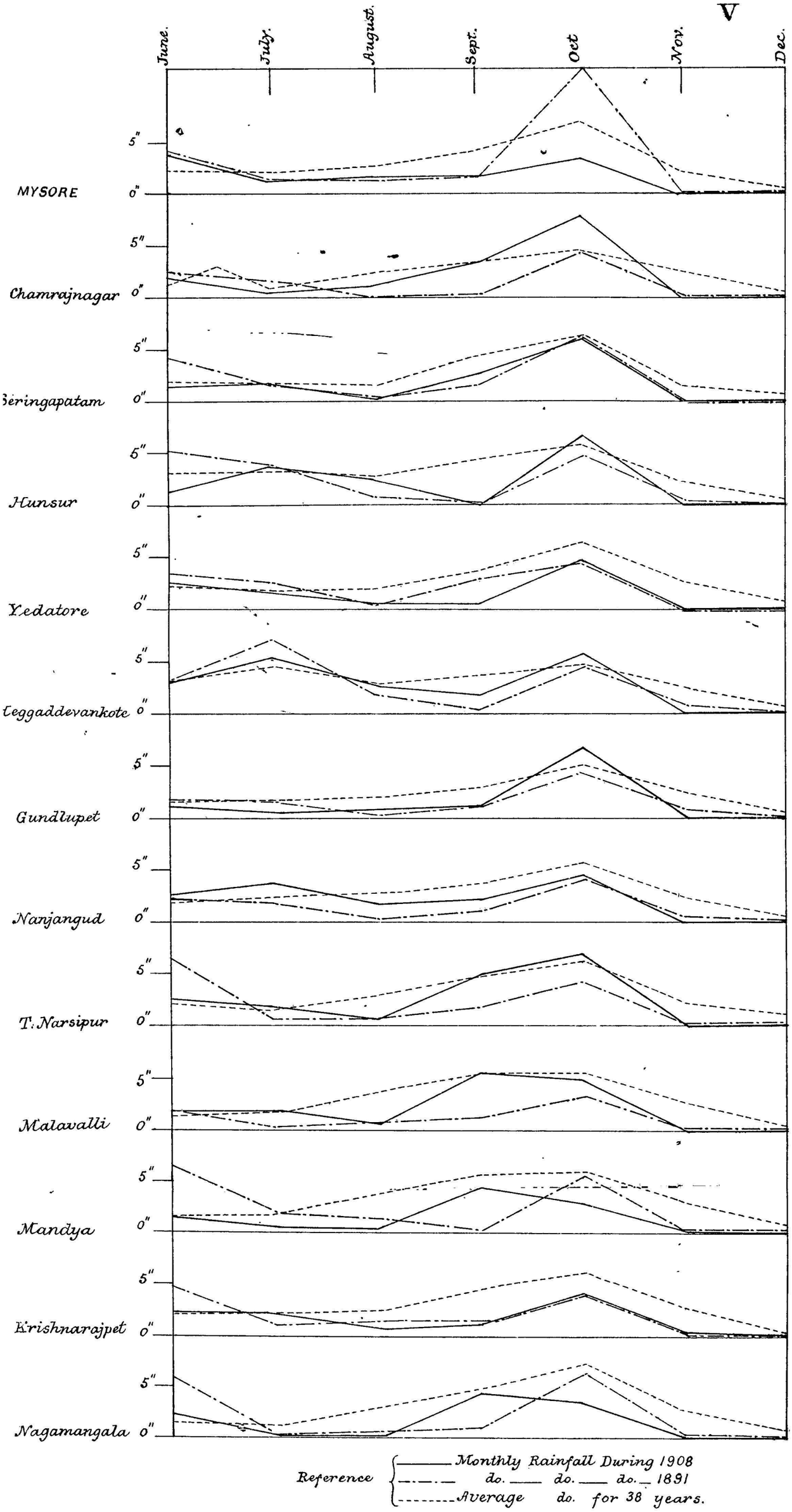
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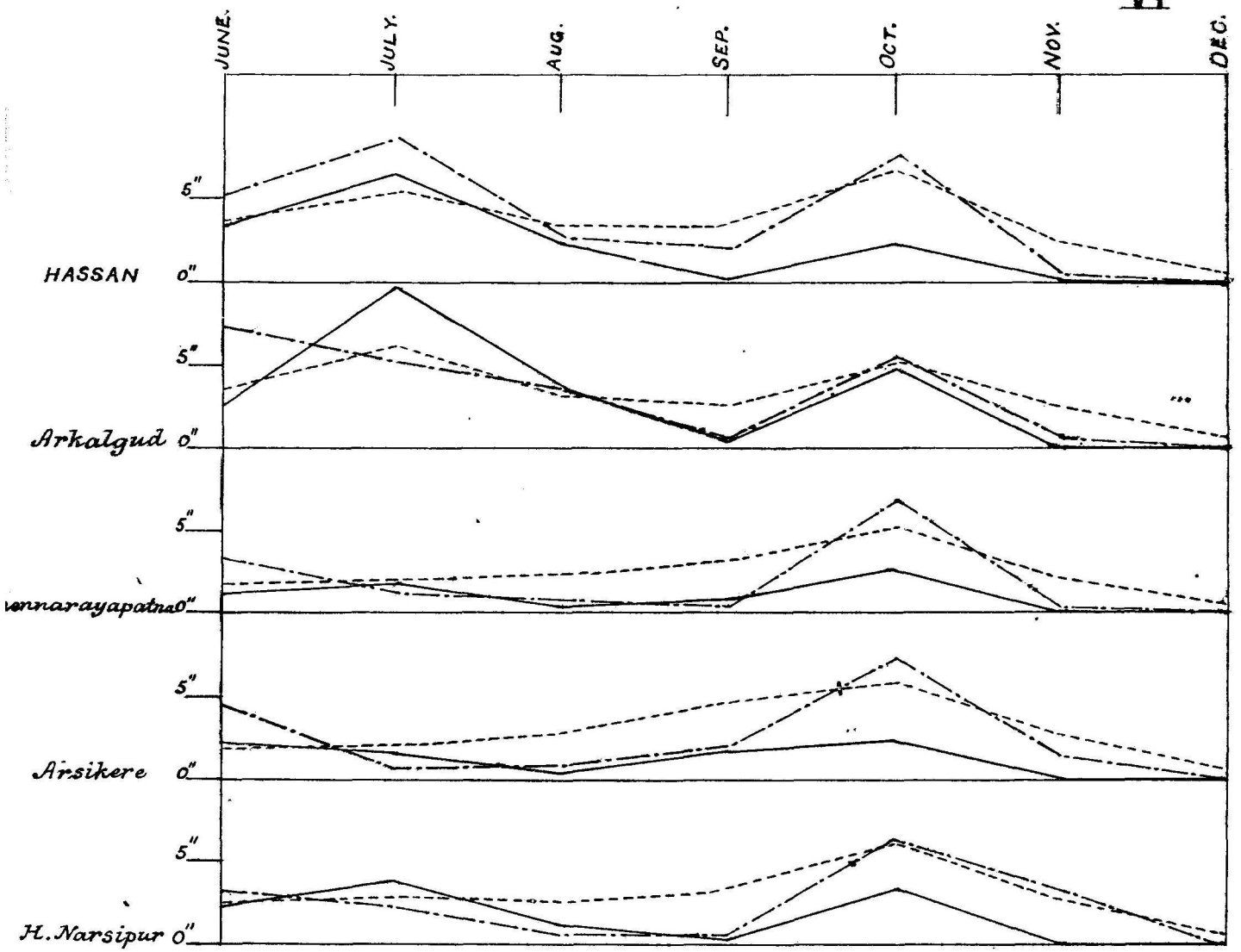
VI



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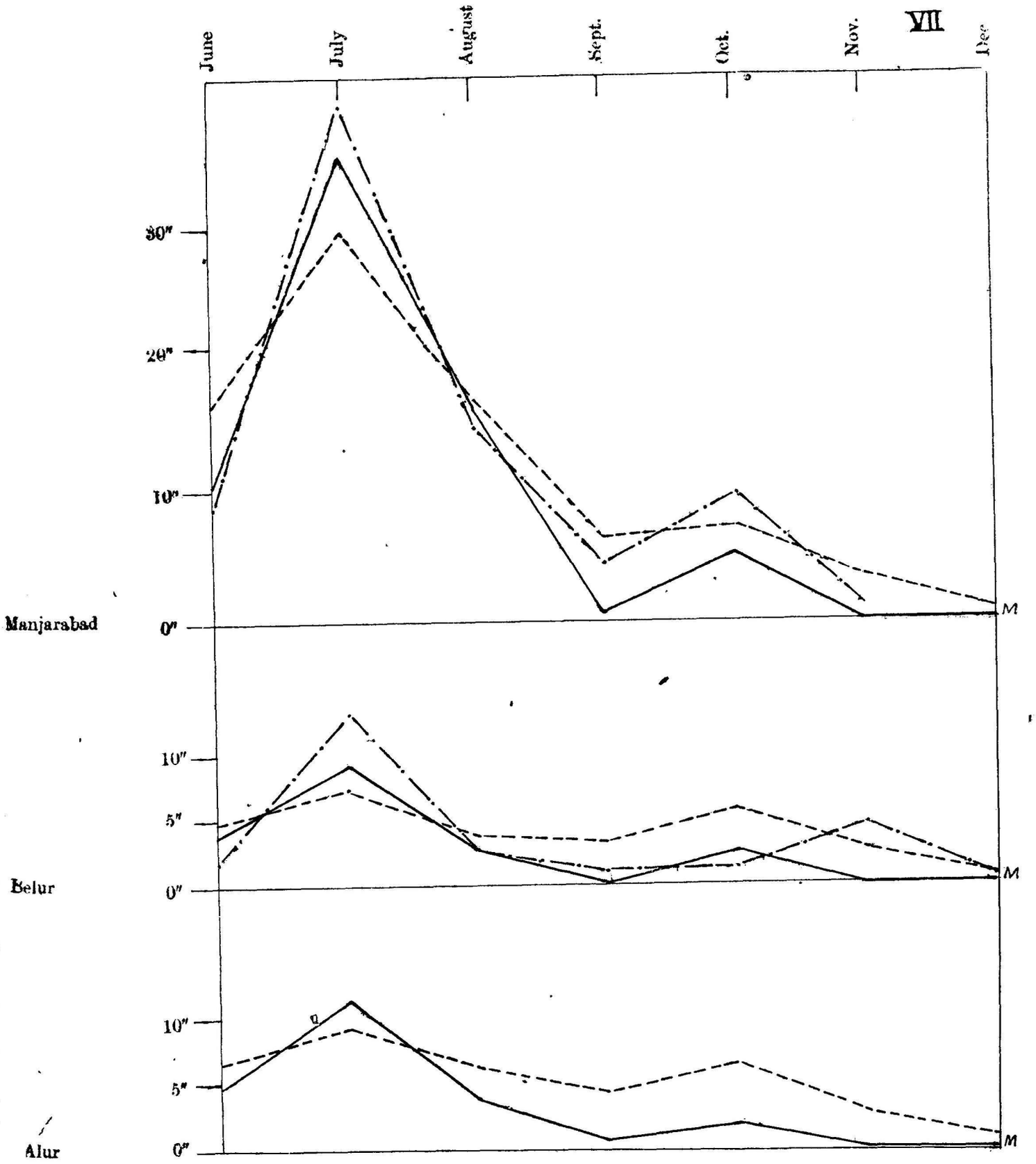

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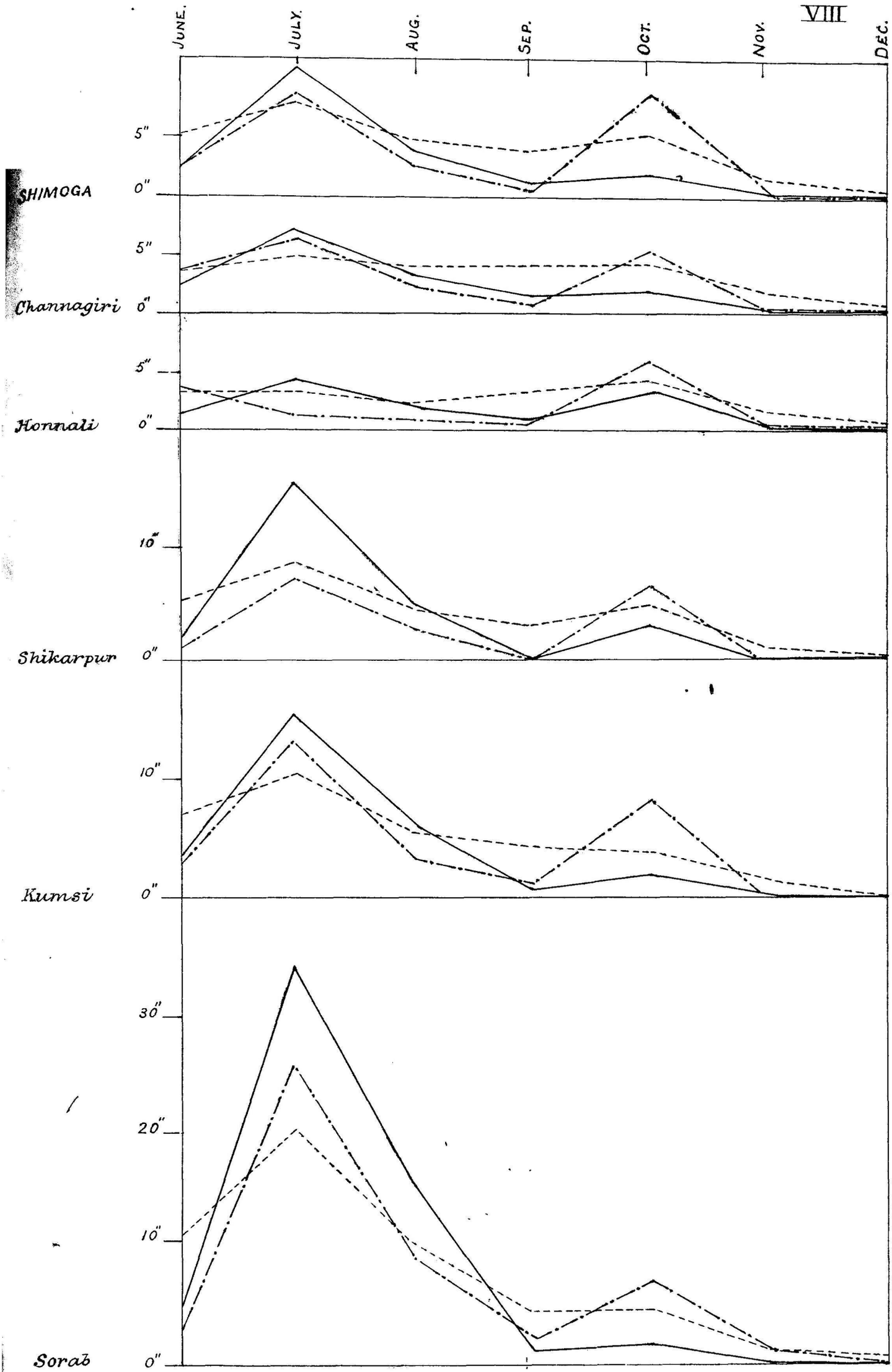
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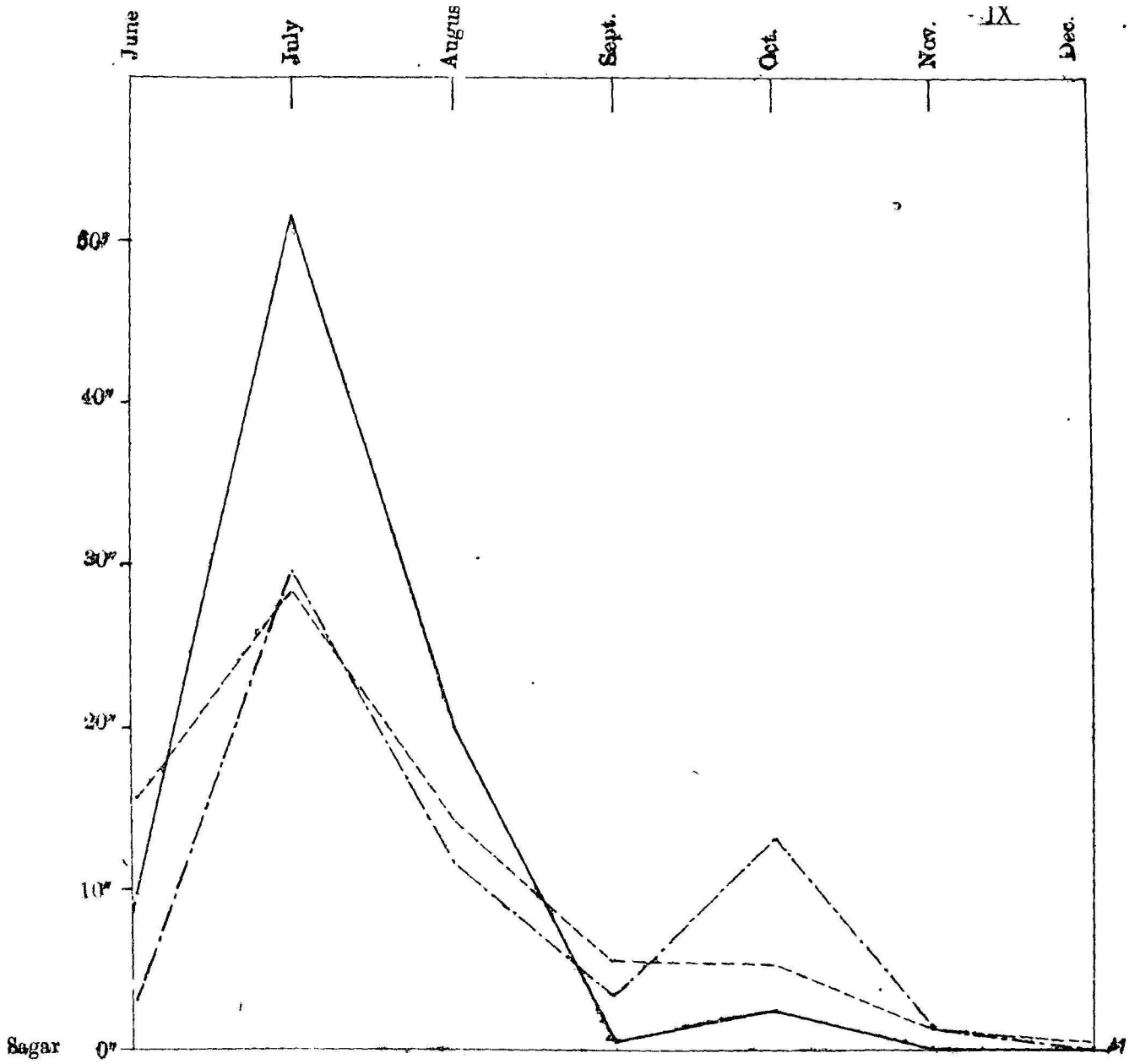

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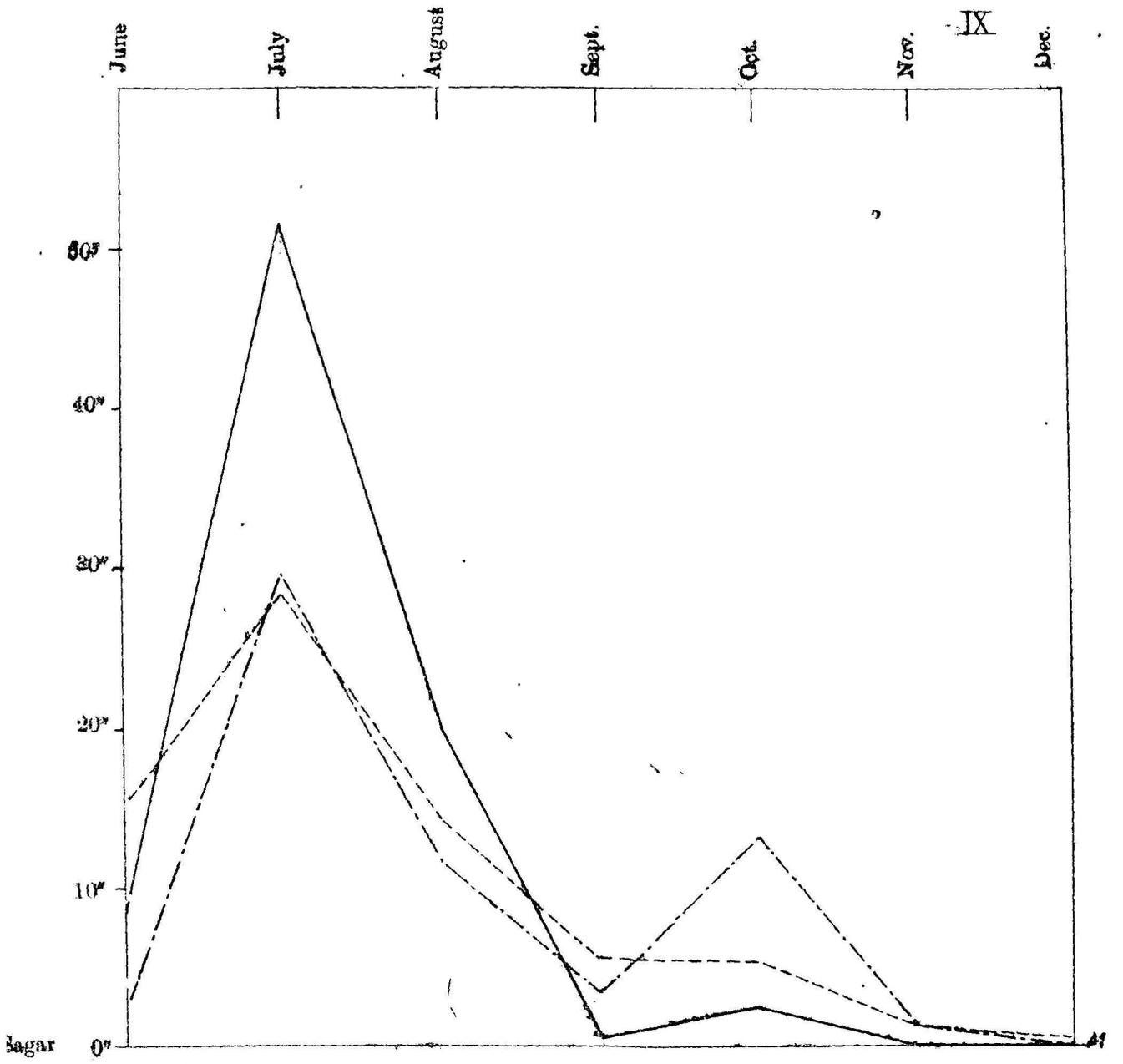
IX



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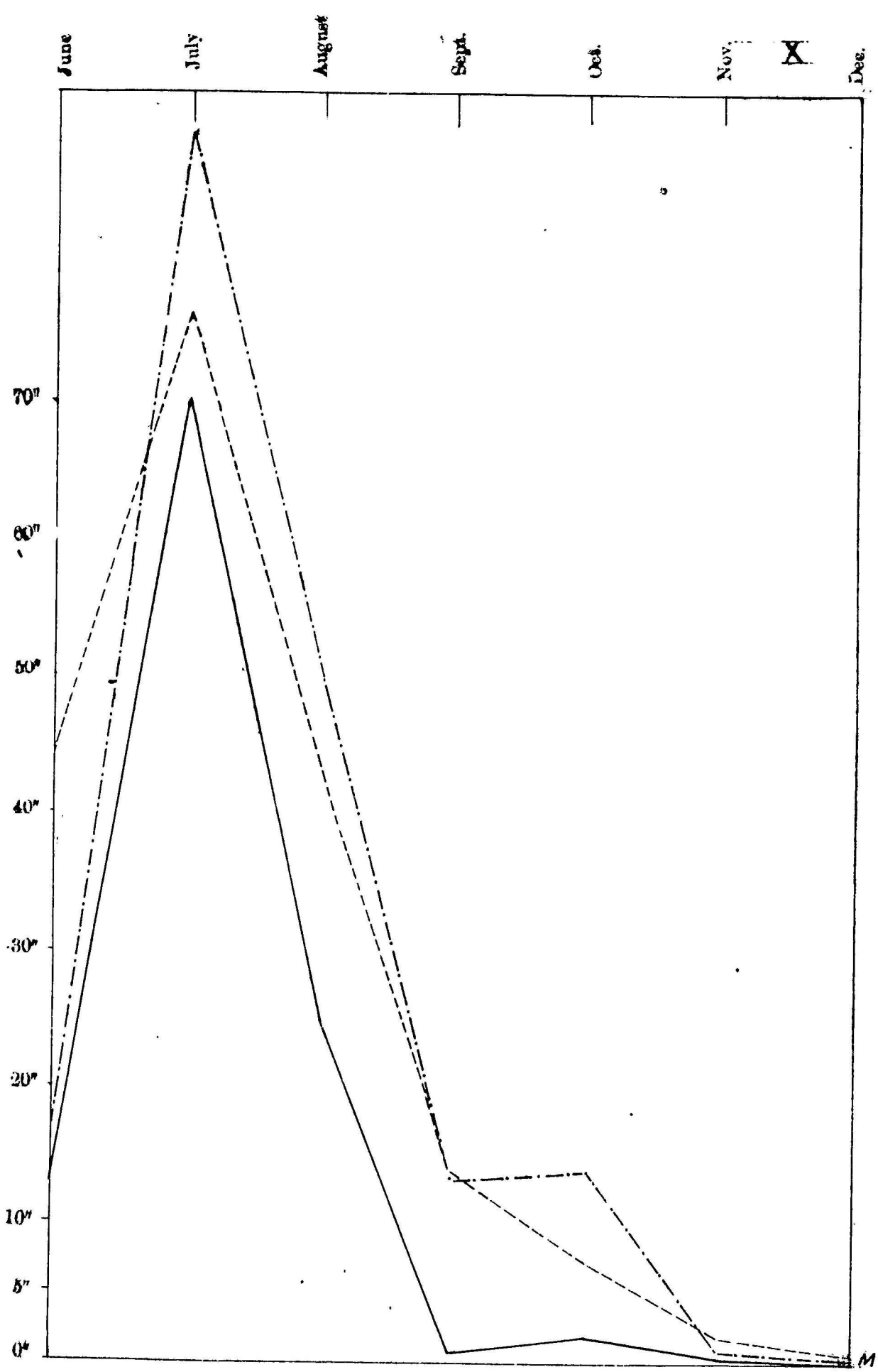

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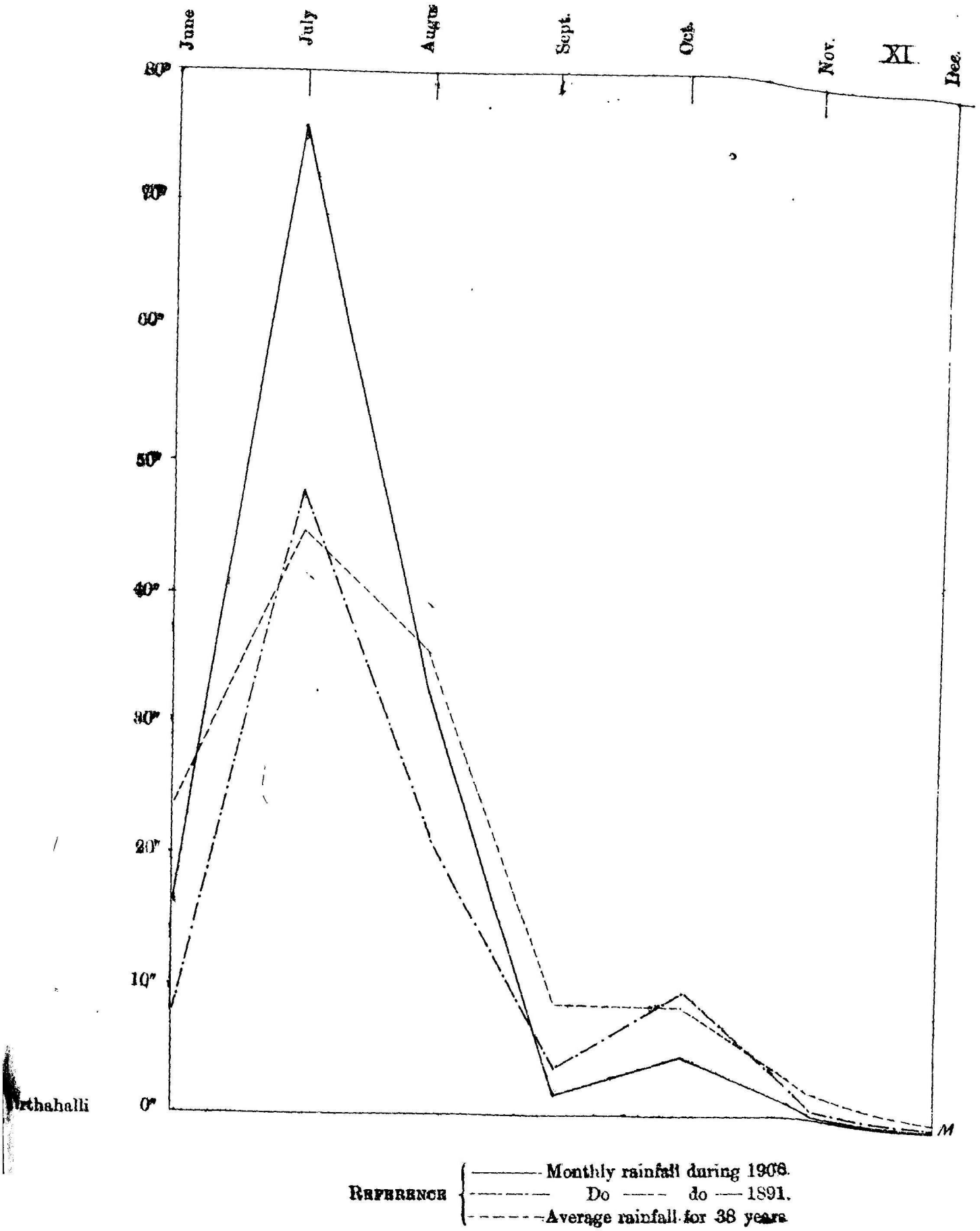
- - - - Average rainfall for 38 years.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Average rainfall for 38 years

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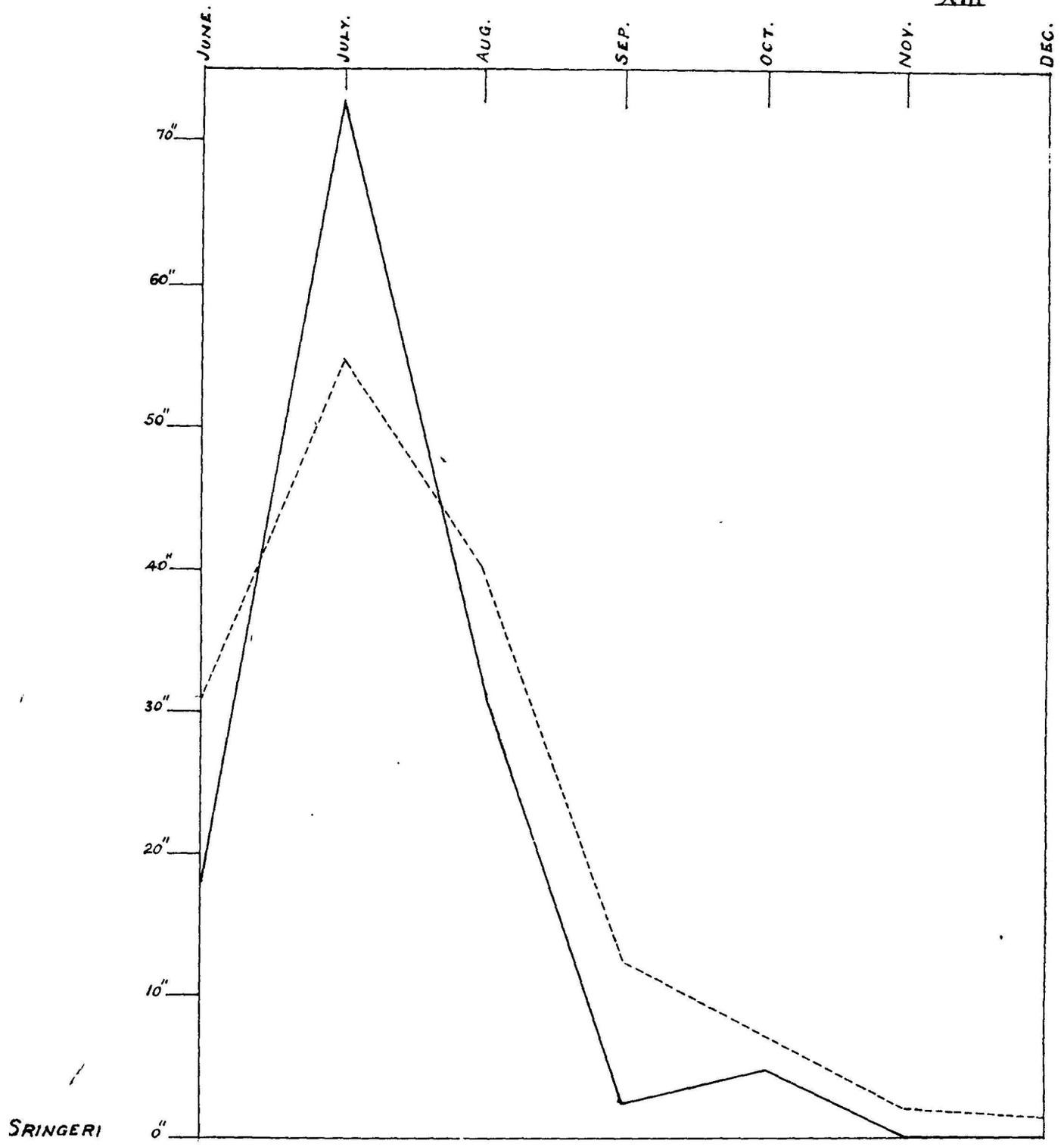
XIII



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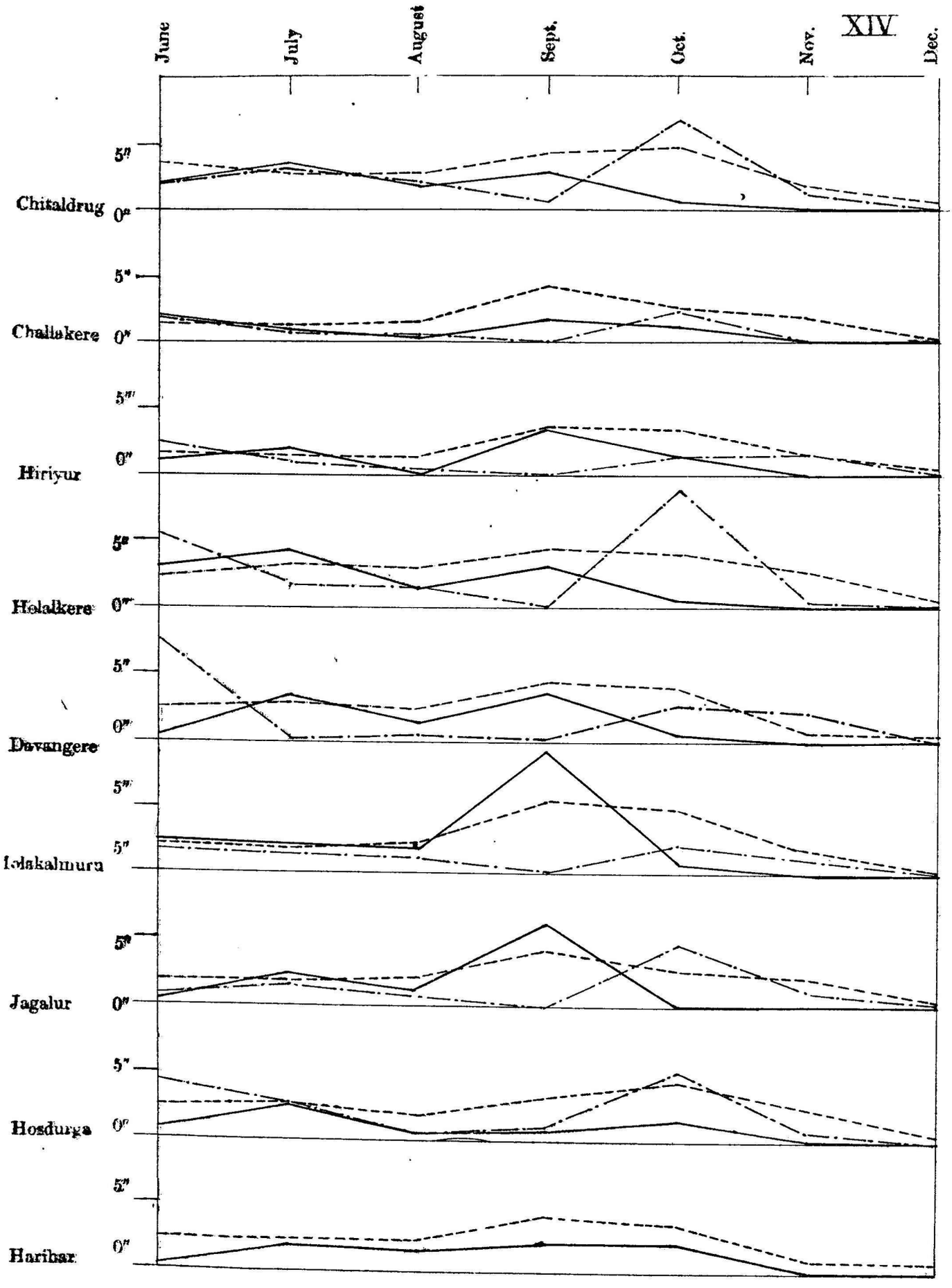

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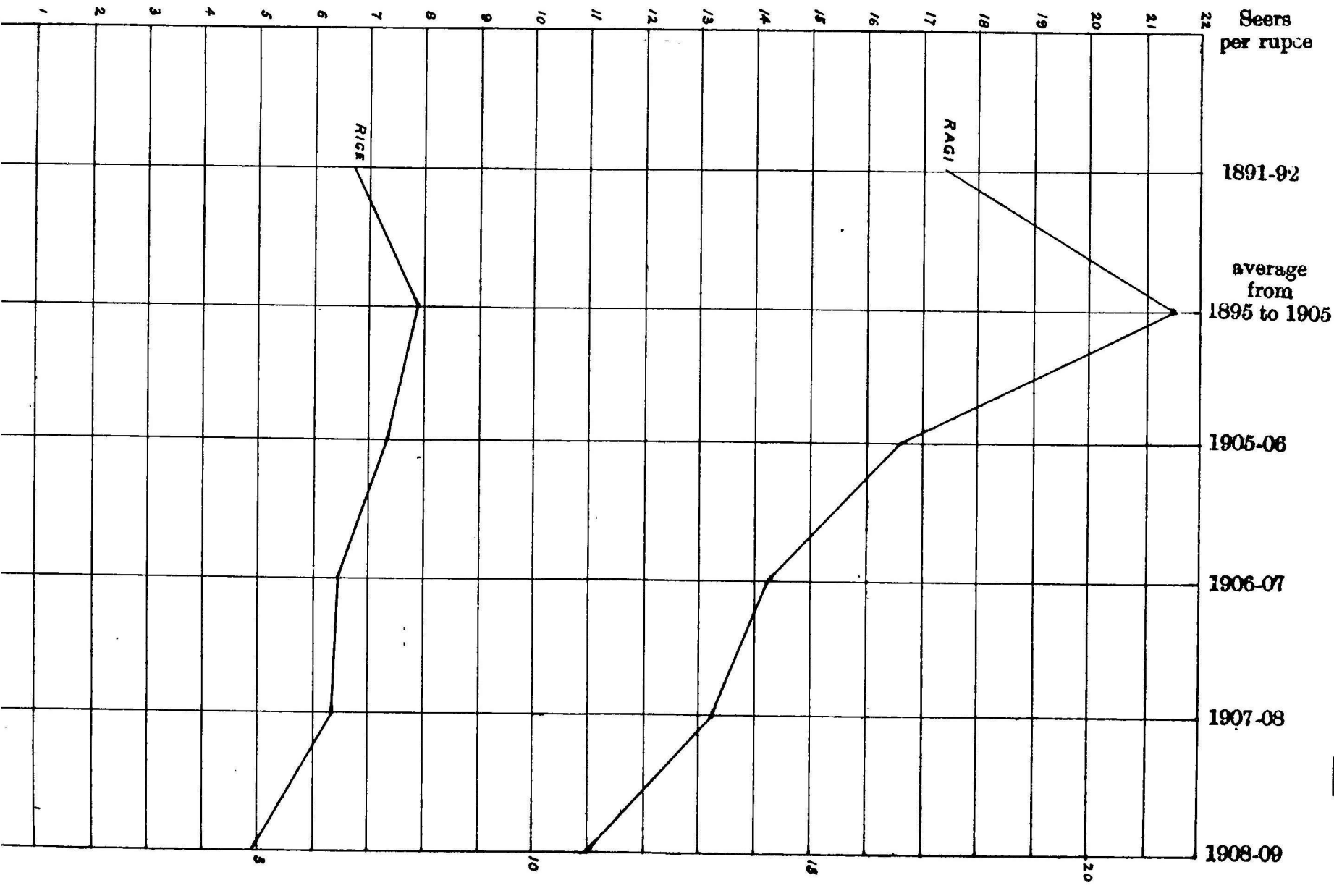
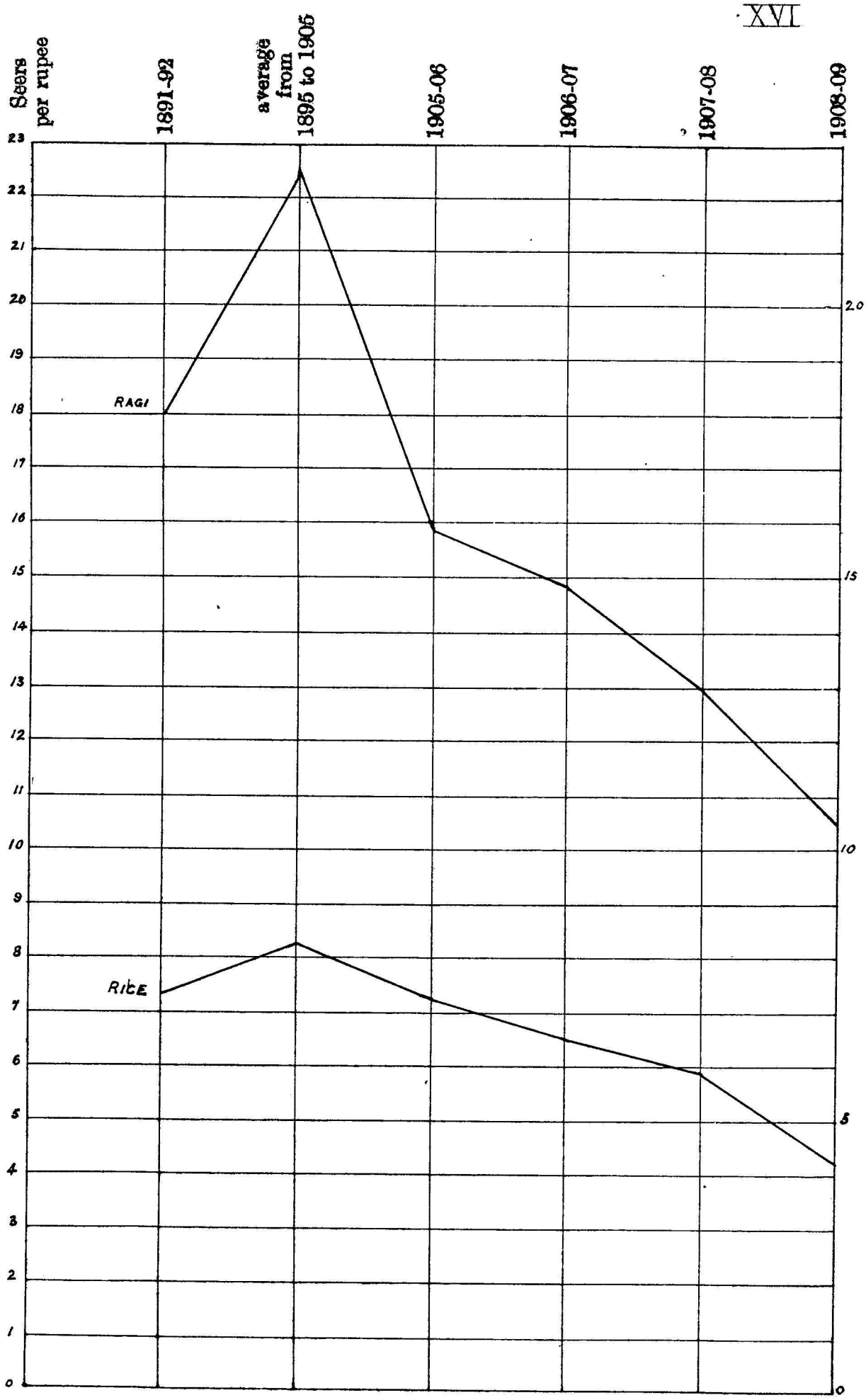
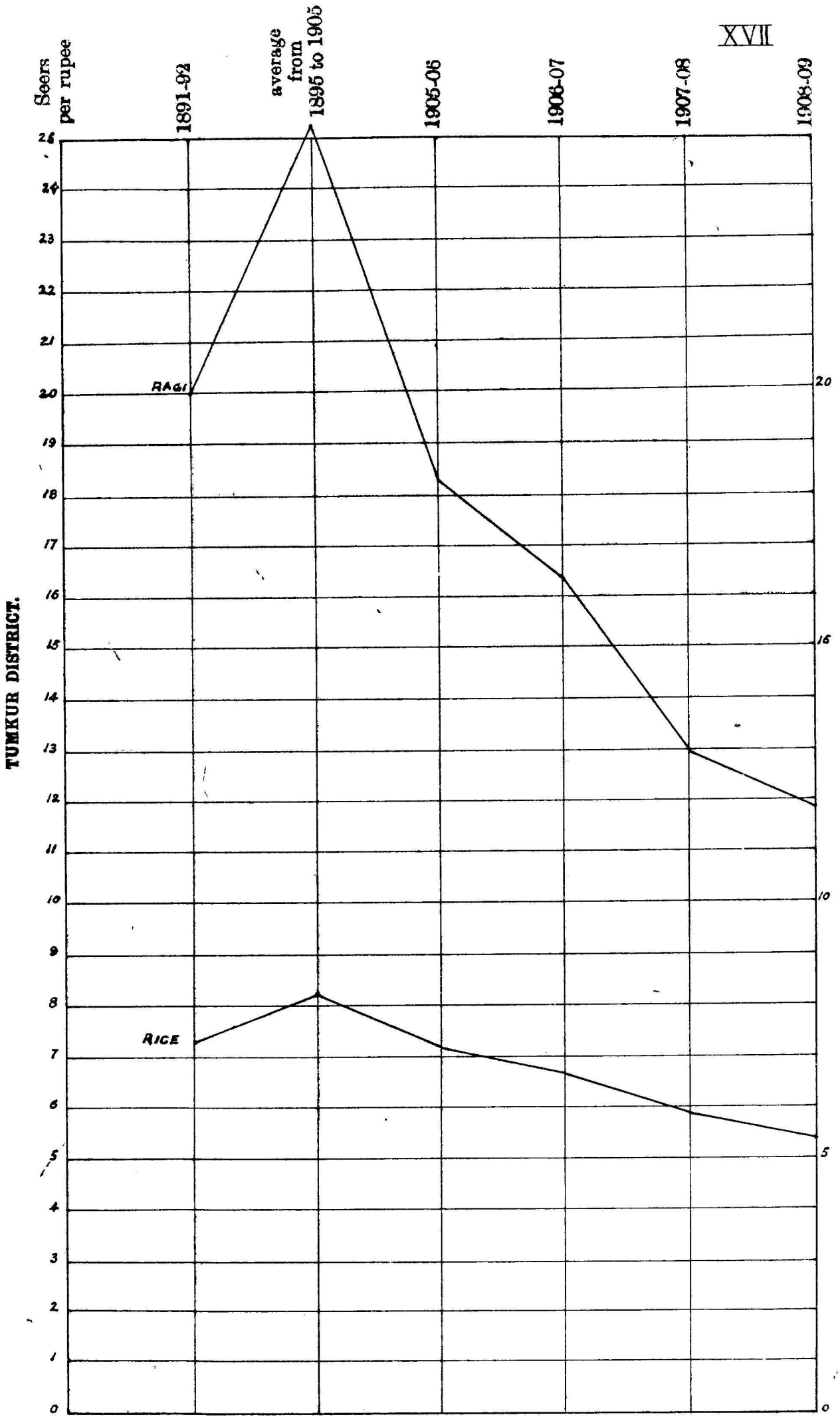
BANGALORE DISTRICT.



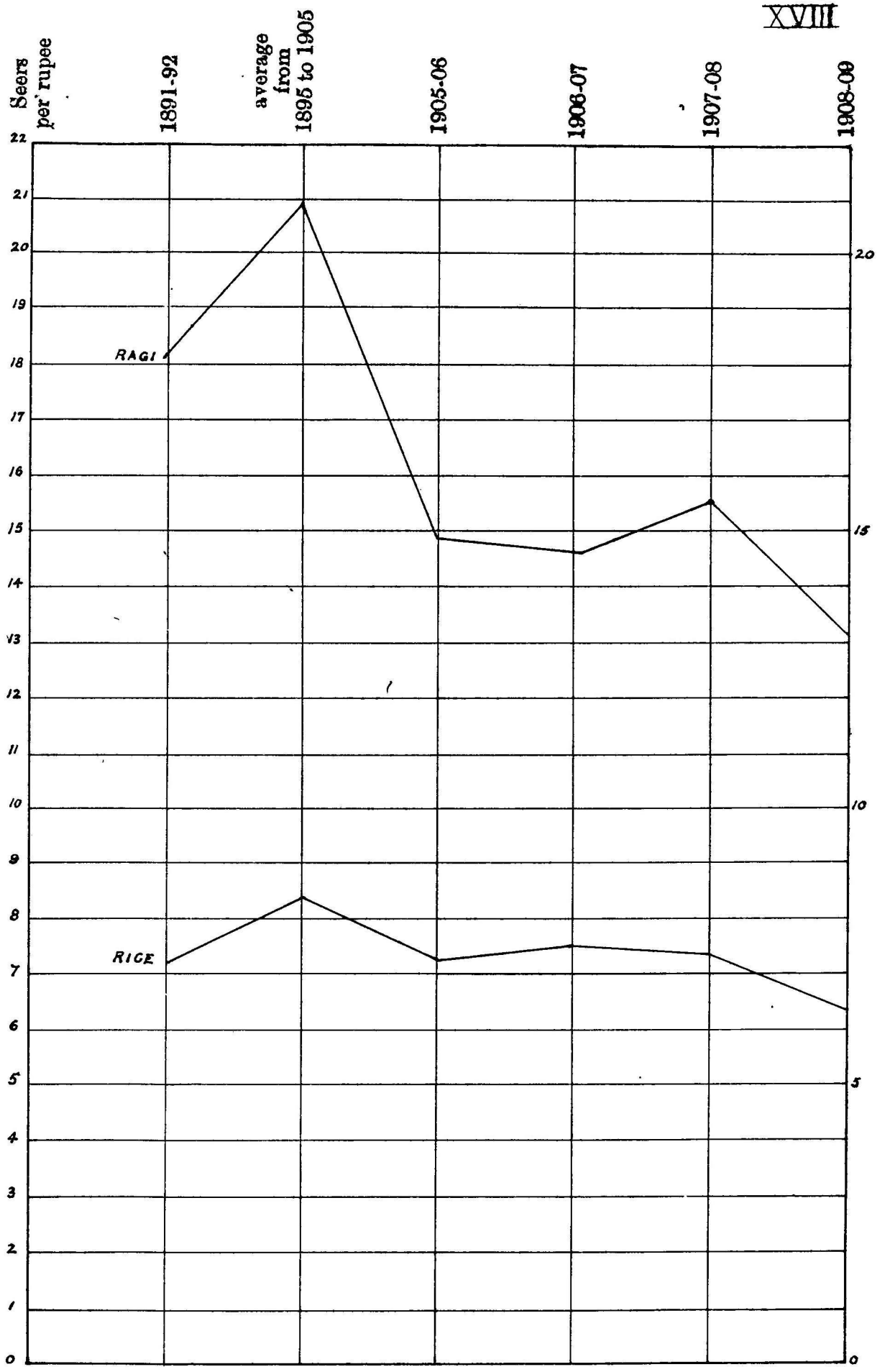
XV

KOLAR DISTRICT.

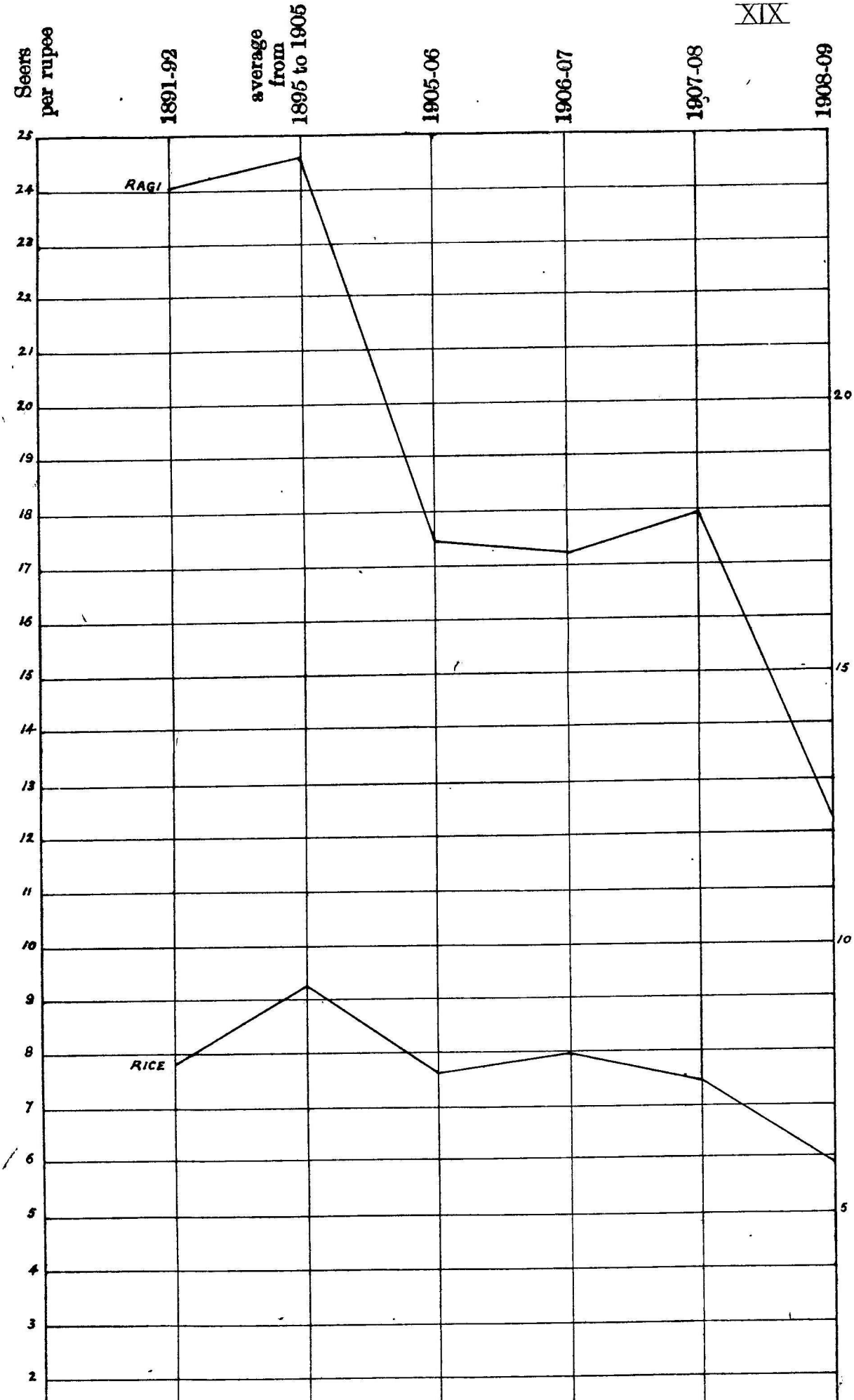


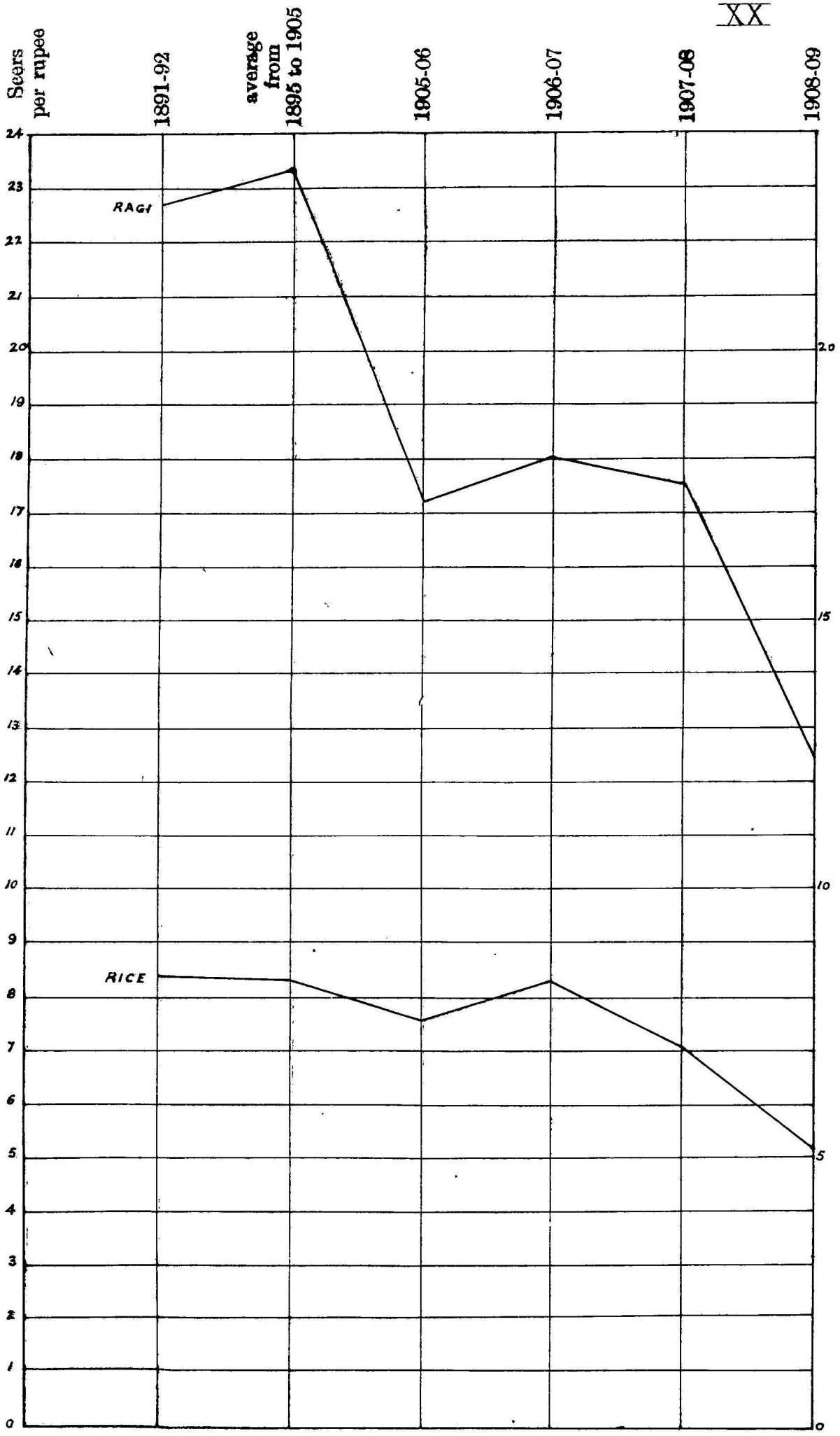

TUMKUR DISTRICT.
Seers per rupee
1891-92
average from 1895 to 1905
1905-06
1906-07
1907-08
1908-09
RAGI
RICE
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
0
5
10
16
20

MYSORE DISTRICT.

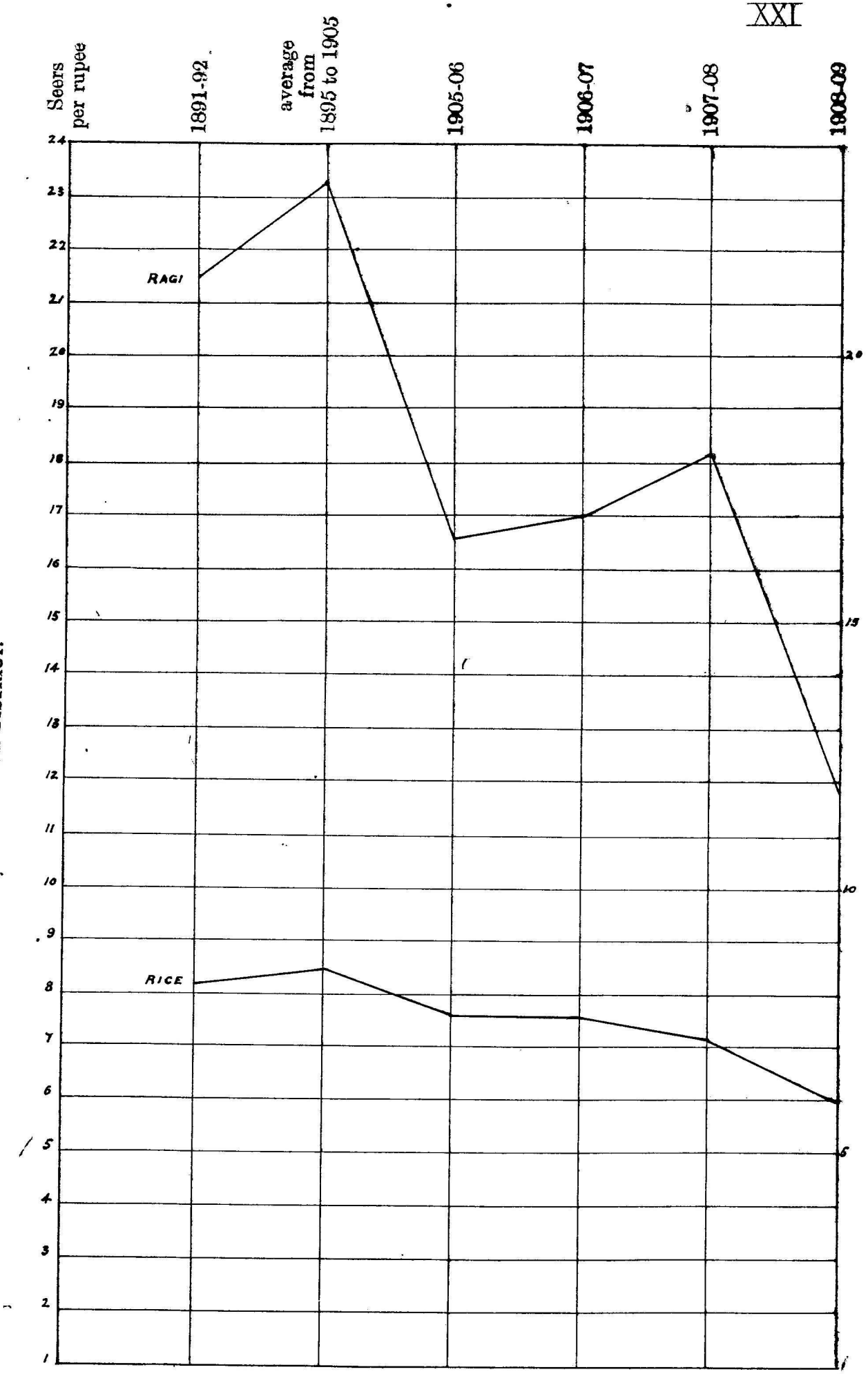


HASSAN DISTRICT.

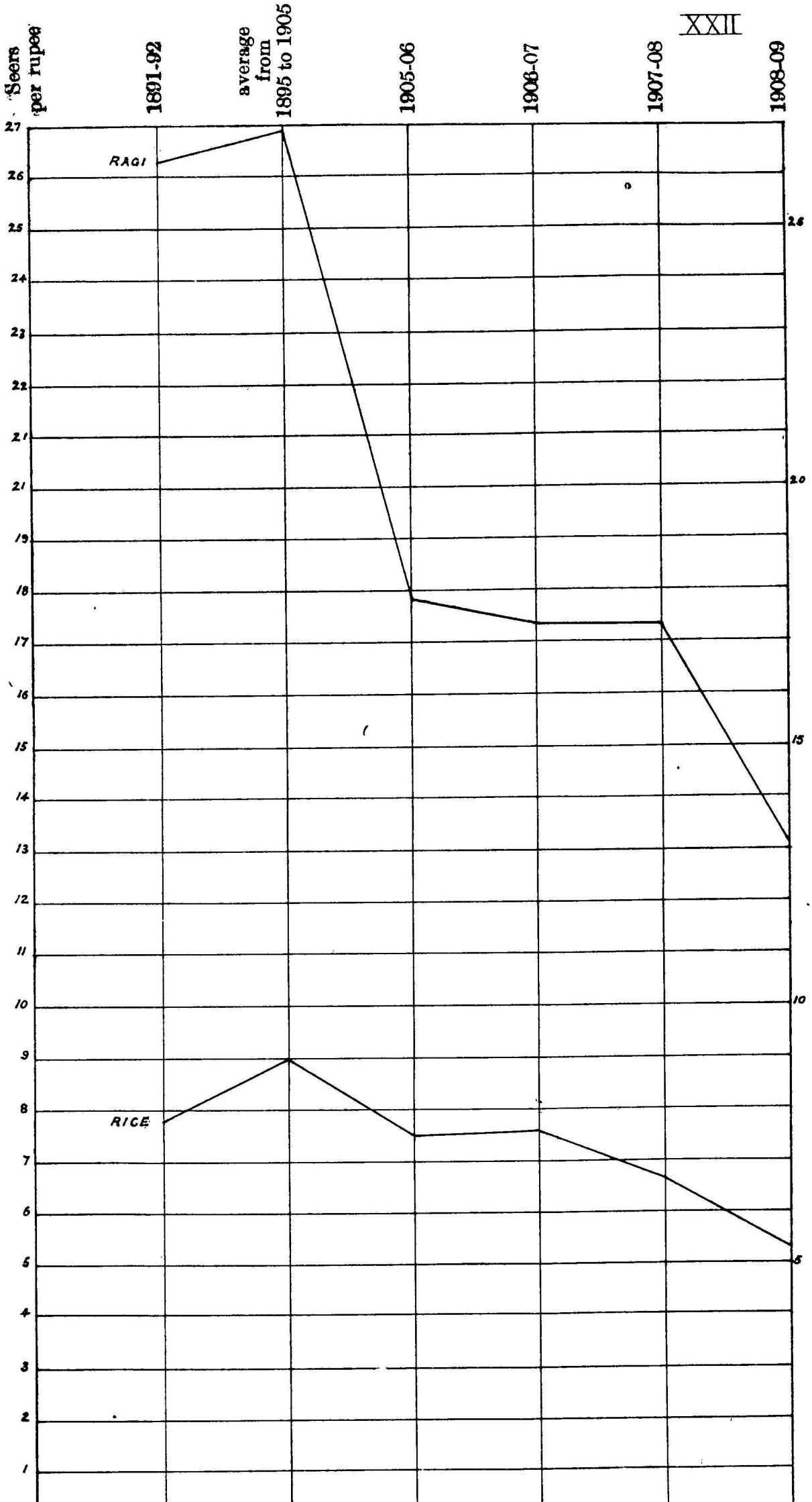




SHIMOGA DISTRICT.



KADUR DISTRICT.



CHITALDROOG DISTRICT.